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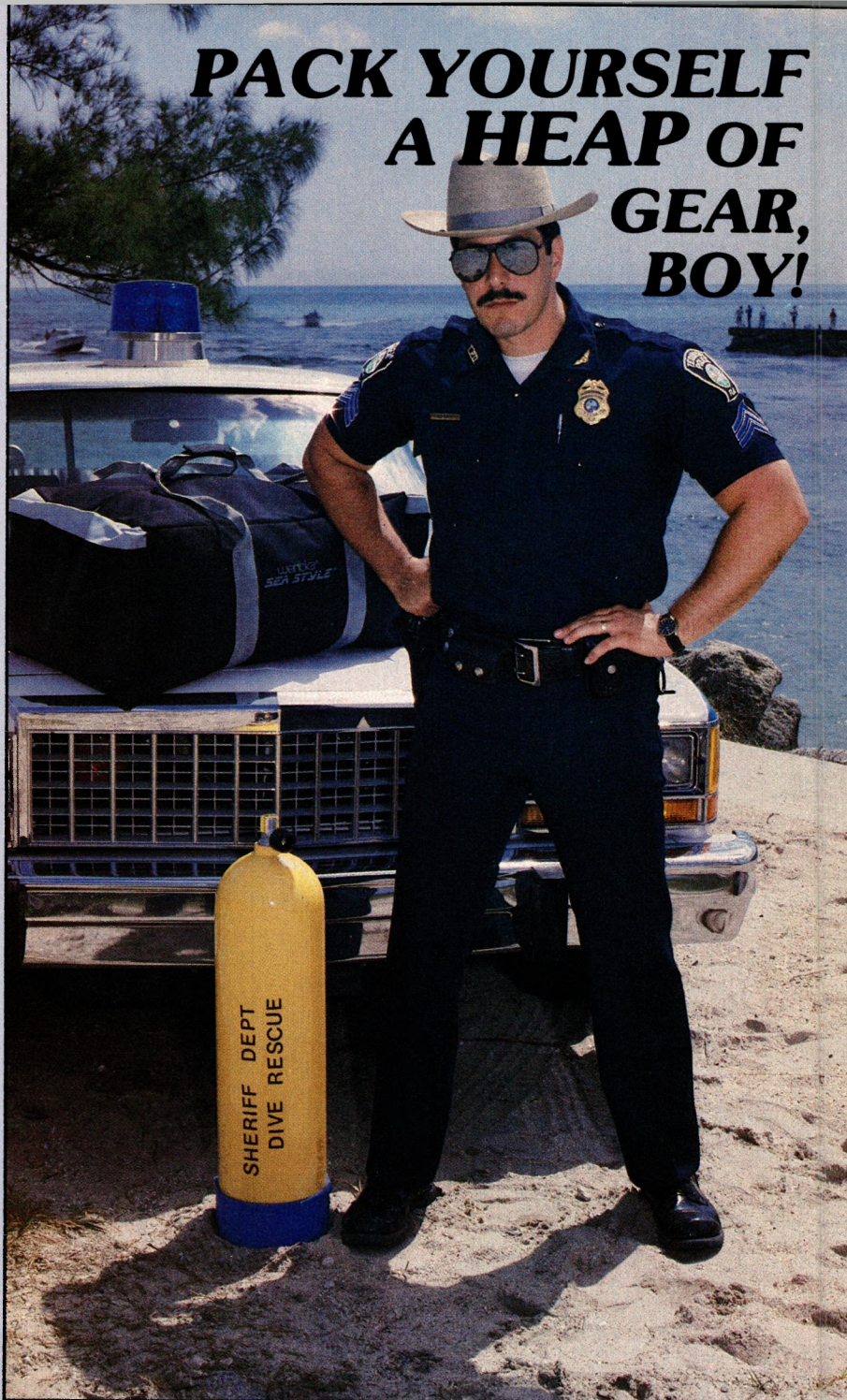
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COVER

An anemone clownfish confronts the camera. The photo was taken with a Nikonos V camera, 35mm lens with 1:2 extension tube, Ikelite Substrobe MV and Ektachrome 64 film. Inset: A Solomon Islander paddles his outrigger canoe. For more on anemonefish or the exciting diving off Anuha Island, see page 90. Photos/Geri Murphy.

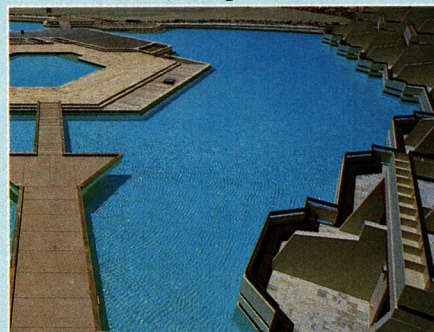
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SDM Editorial

BY PAUL J. TZIMOULIS

ADVANCED DIVE TRAVEL

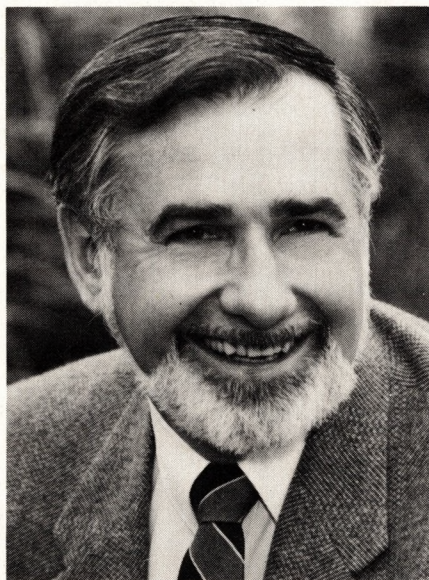
The mass migration toward tropical resort diving has resulted in many benefits. Resorts are nicer, dive boats are bigger, service is better and diving is safer. This explosion has also brought some new problems. Dives are more structured, boats are more crowded and trips are more expensive.

But perhaps the greatest problem to befall the dive travel industry is consumer confusion as to what constitutes a good dive resort. For example, two certified divers spend a week vacationing at a popular, well advertised resort in the Caribbean. One returns home raving about what a great dive vacation it was. The other diver goes home complaining it was a rip-off. Which diver is lying? Neither. Each diver honestly believes his/her analysis of the resort and the diving. Why such different viewpoints? You can sum it up in one word—experience. One diver has been certified for a year and this was his second tropical dive trip. The other is a 12 year veteran who has traveled around the world.

The advanced dive traveler is an emerging cult of vacationers. These divers were new travelers back in the '70s. During the last 6 to 12 years they have vacationed in the Caribbean, Red Sea, South Pacific and the Orient. They know good diving from mediocre. These customers have high expectations. They have very little patience for beginning scuba classes, long winded divemaster speeches or dead coral reefs. You cannot really blame them. They have paid their dues and expect better.

Now let's look at the other side of the problem, the dive resorts. Over the past 12 years their numbers have mushroomed. An estimated 200 resort operations now populate the Caribbean alone. Many are new and have little experience dealing with veteran travelers. The resulting clash is inevitable.

To illustrate this dilemma, let us take a look at a mythical resort island in the Caribbean. It is said to have good coral



reefs, clear water and lots of drop-offs. So far, so good.

On this island there is a well known hotel that advertises super duper dive packages at super saver prices. The dive package consists of a two tank trip in the morning. The first site is a wall that drops to 100 feet. The divemaster makes a 30 minute pre-dive speech, then tells everyone to stick together and follow him. The second site is in shallow water on a so-so reef that allows plenty of bottom time but provides no sizzling action.

Also on this same island is a live-aboard dive boat. The accommodations are not as fancy as the hotel and there is definitely no tennis court. Yet, the cabins are comfortable and the atmosphere, friendly. On this live-aboard, guests make four or five dives per day, if they like. At least three of these dives are wall dives. The sites are spectacular and the fish life, fantastic. The guests are not escorted by the divemaster unless they request this. The divers keep track of their own bottom time and depth and are reminded to dive safely. There is no hand holding. The live-aboard package is more expensive, but there is twice as much diving.

It doesn't take a genius to figure out which package the veteran dive traveler should pick. The live-aboard allows small group conditions, minimal rules, no escorts and lots of diving. Does this make the hotel's super saver package a rip-off?

Of course not! The hotel is catering to the beginner who is seeking guidance and support. Such a diver will feel a lot safer with the hotel program. The hotel package is also ideal for the casual diver. This person doesn't want more than one or two dives per day. He/she wants to spend time with the family or perhaps enjoy some golf.

The comparison of these two vacation packages really has little to do with hotels and live-aboard boats. It could have been a comparison of a little dive lodge and a big swanky hotel or even two hotels of the same size. What is important is the *kind* of service being offered. One package was designed for advanced dive travelers, while the other was designed for beginners and casual divers. What we have is two different dive services for two different groups of people. Booking the advanced diver into the beginner program is like trying to put a square plug in a round hole.

Now let's get to the root of this problem. It is very difficult to tell the beginner packages from the advanced ones. No resort really wants to admit to offering one or the other for fear of losing a potential sale. Making ends meet on a tropical island often depends on getting every customer you can. Advanced dive travel resorts will accept beginners and try to nurse them along. Beginner dive resorts will take anyone and then jam beginning and advanced divers onto the same boat. The divemaster is compelled to organize and run the dive safely for the weakest and least experienced customers. And, since there are usually more beginners on board, the majority rules.

When questioned about this situation, and the complaints received from veteran divers, most resorts point out there are a lot more beginning divers than advanced ones. They claim most customers are completely satisfied with their services. This is not hard to understand when the dive boat is carrying two experienced divers and 14 beginners. Once again, the majority rules. But the clinker in this reasoning is this year's beginning divers will be experienced divers in two more years. Where will they go then?

This problem will not be resolved until
(Continued on Page 136)

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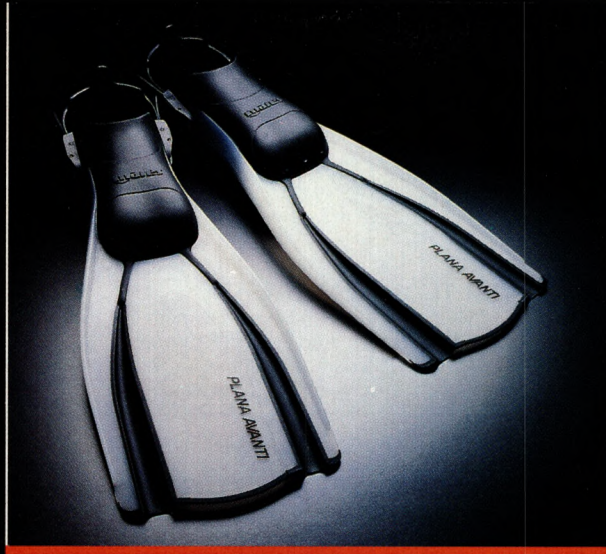
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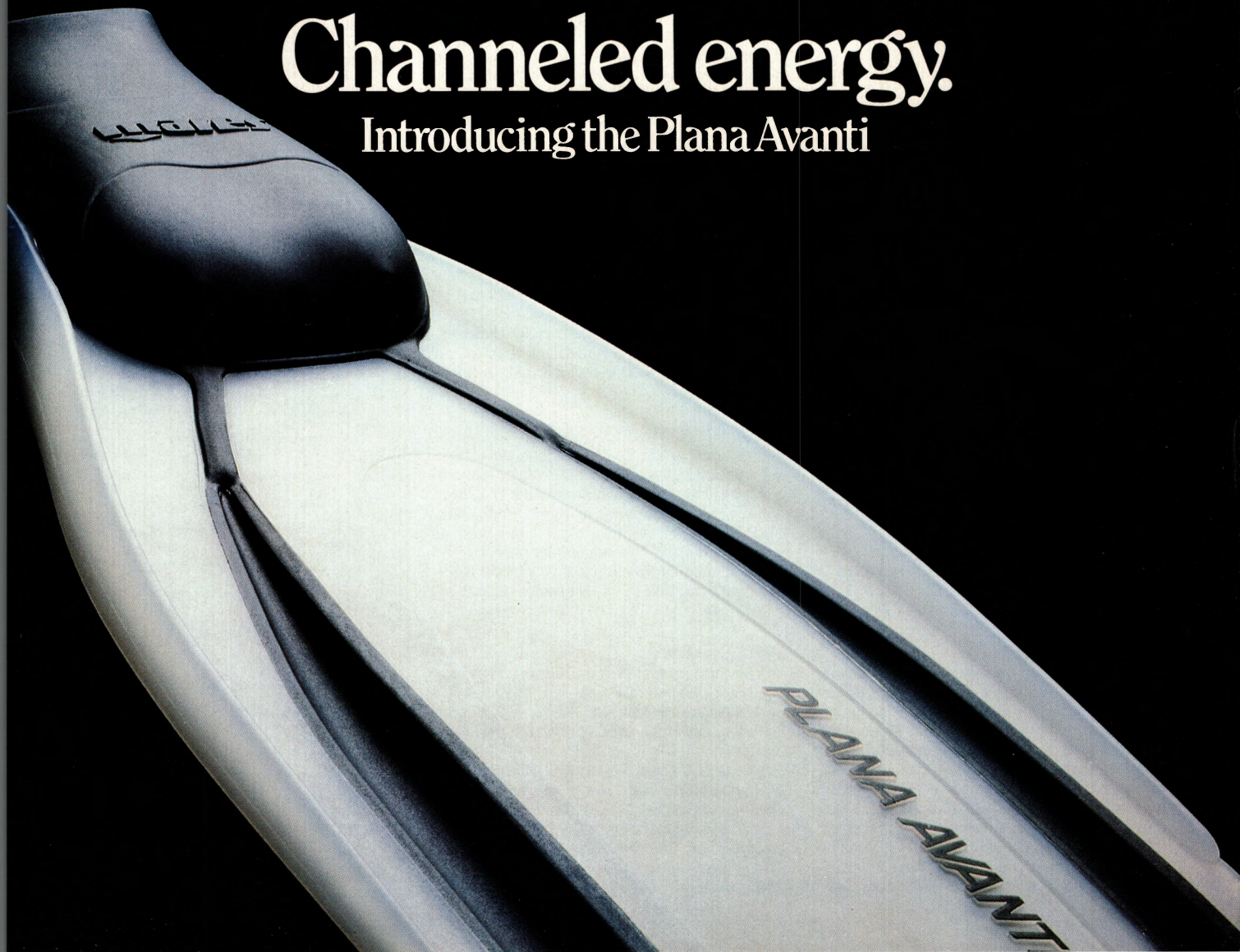


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Diver's Calendar

COUSTEAU LECTURE

Jean-Michel Cousteau will present Rediscover the World, at Rancho Santiago Community College (formerly Santa Ana College) **November 1** at 1:00 pm. The event is sponsored by the Santa Ana College Dive Club and C.A.S.A., the Court Appointed Special Advocate for children program. Proceeds from the event will help support CASA. For information call CASA at (714) 634-7459 or 634-7470. 🌊

DIVE RESCUE II COURSE

The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office (Tampa, Florida), in conjunction with Dive Rescue, Inc. (Fort Collins, CO) will sponsor an advanced rescue diver course **November 3-7** in Tampa. For details and entry requirements, call Greg Brown at (813) 247-6411, ext. 2231 or Ray Novitis (813) 885-5840. 🌊

NORTH PACIFIC UMS MEETING

The annual meeting of the North Pacific Chapter of the Undersea Medical Society will take place in Seattle, Washington **November 6-8**. For information contact Richard Dunford, Secretary-Treasurer, Virginia Mason Hospital, P.O. Box 1930, Seattle, WA 98122. 🌊

WINTER WORLD

Winter World Sport Show of Milwaukee, Inc., in cooperation with Bennett's Academy of Ski & Scuba and local dive shops, will offer this year's Winter World "sun and snow" consumer trade show to the Milwaukee, Wisconsin area **November 7-9**. For information contact Winter World Sport Show of Milwaukee, Inc., 3806 South Rutland Avenue, St. Francis, WI 53207; (414) 744-1206. 🌊

L.A. COUNTY SAFETY SEMINAR

The Los Angeles County Underwater Instructors Association will host a diving safety seminar **November 8**. For information contact Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation (213) 327-5311. 🌊

SEAVIEW '86

Rick's Pro Dive 'N Ski Shop of North Little Rock, Arkansas will present Seaview '86 **November 8** at the Northeast High School Auditorium, North Little Rock, Arkansas. Jack McKenney will show a selection of his films and will autograph copies of his latest book. There will be exhibits and door prizes.

For information contact Rick's Pro Dive 'N Ski Shop, 2323 North Poplar, North Little Rock, AR 72114; (501) 753-6004. 🌊

DIVE NEW JERSEY

The New Jersey Council of Diving Clubs will host its tenth annual symposium, Dive New Jersey... and Beyond, at the Count Basie Theater, 99 Monmouth St., Red Bank, New Jersey **November 8**. Exhibits will be included as will presentations and awards for an U/W photography contest. The grand door prize will be a dive vacation for two to Bonaire, courtesy Bonaire Beach Hotel and Bonaire Scuba Center.

Contact Gerry or Jaye Niel, 574 Schuyler Way, Union, NJ 07083. Tickets are available through local dive shops or at the door. 🌊

CALTECH/WATERMAN

The Stan Waterman Show will return to Caltech's Beckman Auditorium **November 8**. Beckman Auditorium is at South Michigan Avenue and Constance Street in Pasadena, California. For information call the Caltech Ticket Office at (818) 356-4652. 🌊

DIVERS SCIENCE INSTITUTE

Two days of speaker presentations and audio/visual programs on marine science and ecology will be offered **November 8-9** at the University of Miami's School of Marine Science by the American Littoral Society, South Florida Chapter.

For information contact the American Littoral Society, National Fisheries Service, 75 Virginia Beach Drive, Key Biscayne, FL 33149; (305) 361-4200. 🌊

ATLANTIC ALLIANCE WORKSHOP

The Atlantic Alliance for Maritime Heritage Conservation will host its first West Coast workshop in Los Angeles **November 13-16**. Participants will be provided with hands-on experience and firsthand information on archaeological research diving.

For information contact David C. Lee, Regional Director-Pacific Coast, The Atlantic Alliance for Maritime Heritage Conservation, P.O. Box 3369, Alhambra, CA 91803; telephone (818) 576-8293. 🌊

DIVE/SIGHT SEMINAR

Jim and Cathy Church will present an all day photographic equipment seminar **November 14-16**. Additionally, they will present an audio/visual show and answer questions about underwater photography. The seminar will take place at Helix, 310 South Racine Avenue, Chicago, IL 60607.

For information contact the Helix Underwater Department at the above address or call (312) 421-6000. Outside Illinois call (800) 33 HELIX. 🌊

LIDA FILM FESTIVAL

The Long Island Divers Association is hosting its fourth annual Fall Film Festival **November 15** in the main auditorium of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, New York. The event will include guest speakers as well as slide and film presentations.

For further information contact LIDA, Incorporated, P.O. Box 7304, Hicksville, New York 11801. 🌊

WRECK DAY

The third annual Wreck Day will be held at The Marine Museum at Fall River, Inc., Fall River, MA **November 29**. The list of presentations includes, among others: Duncan Mathewson—Treasures of the *Atocha*, Philippe Beaudry—*Empress of Ireland*, Phil Trupp—The Business of Treasure Hunting, Hank Keats—USS *San Diego*, and Bill Quinn—East Coast Shipwrecks.

For information contact The Marine Museum at Fall River, Inc., 70 Water Street, P.O. Box 1147, Fall River, MA 02722; (617) 674-3533. 🌊

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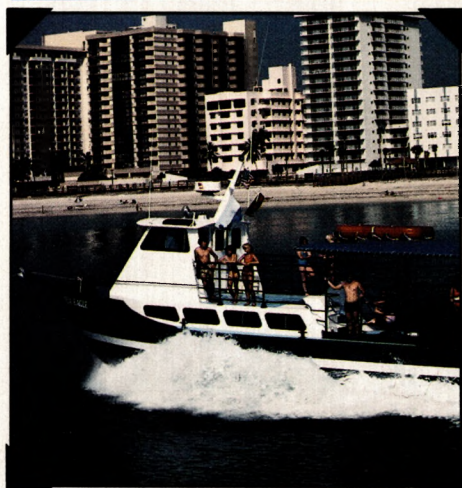
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Scuba Quiz

Category: Physiology

Topic: Heat Loss

By Dennis Graver

Divers are aware of the problems of loss of body heat in water, but with the cold months rapidly approaching again, it is a good idea to review the body's reaction to heat loss. See if you know as much as you should about this very important topic by answering the following questions and comparing your answers with those on the next page.

1. The areas of the body from which heat loss is greatest are:

- ☐ A. Head, groin and trunk
- ☐ B. Groin, trunk and neck
- ☐ C. Trunk, arms and legs
- ☐ D. Trunk, groin and legs

2. The amount of body heat lost through respiration while diving is _____ percent of the total heat produced by the body.

- ☐ A. 4 to 8
- ☐ B. 5 to 10
- ☐ C. 12 to 20
- ☐ D. 15 to 24

3. Women have less problems with heat loss than men owing to a thicker layer of subcutaneous fat.

- ☐ A. True
- ☐ B. False

4. Increased blood viscosity results from long, cold dives.

- ☐ A. True
- ☐ B. False

5. The purpose of shivering is to increase heat production by the

body and shivering helps rewarm a diver underwater.

- ☐ A. True
- ☐ B. False

6. Arrange in order from greatest to least the following factors affecting heat loss from a diver:

- ☐ A. Physical conditioning
- ☐ B. Diet
- ☐ C. Anxiety
- ☐ D. Physical activity

7. When referring to the dive tables after a cold dive, which schedule should be used?

- ☐ A. The next greater time
- ☐ B. The next greater depth
- ☐ C. The next greater time and depth
- ☐ D. The standard dive schedule is OK

8. Heat loss can be reduced with frequent diving because:

- ☐ A. Vasoconstriction increases
- ☐ B. Body fat increases
- ☐ C. Body metabolism decreases
- ☐ D. All of the above

9. Alcohol increases heat loss if ingested prior to diving, but it is effective for rewarming a cold diver after a dive.

- ☐ A. True
- ☐ B. False

10. Excessive heat loss while diving is prevented primarily by:

- ☐ A. Physical fitness
- ☐ B. Insulation
- ☐ C. Vasoconstriction
- ☐ D. Physical activity

11. Heat loss from hands and feet is not a concern even in very cold water because circulation is shunted from them to preserve body heat.

- ☐ A. True
- ☐ B. False

12. Arrange in order the following symptoms of a diver experiencing heat loss:

- ☐ A. Increased muscle tension
- ☐ B. Increased respiratory rate
- ☐ C. Loss of short term memory
- ☐ D. Shivering

13. The best way to rewarm a chilled diver after a long, cold dive is:

- ☐ A. A hot shower
- ☐ B. A hot bath
- ☐ C. Dry, warm clothes and warm drinks
- ☐ D. Dry, warm clothes and exercise

14. Three-fingered mitts prevent heat loss better than five-fingered gloves because they:

- ☐ A. Retain water better than the gloves
- ☐ B. Have less surface area than gloves
- ☐ C. Are thicker than gloves
- ☐ D. All of the above

15. The insulating ability of a wetsuit is halved at a depth of:

- ☐ A. 33 feet
- ☐ B. 47 feet
- ☐ C. 68 feet
- ☐ D. 110 feet

Scuba Quiz

Answers: Heat Loss

1. A. Head, groin and trunk. One of the body's defenses against heat loss is the shunting of blood from the extremities. This pertains to the arms and legs, but not the head. In fact, more than 40 percent of body heat can be lost from the head in 40°F water. Circulation is maintained in the trunk and groin to vital organs. These three areas of greatest loss should be insulated the most.

2. D. 15 to 24. The body loses a significant amount of heat warming inspired air, which is then expired. Air entering the lungs is also humidified, so heat is lost through evaporation from the lungs as well. The drier the air, the greater the evaporative heat loss. Since divers breathe dehydrated air, evaporative heat loss is very high. Also, the faster the breathing rate, the greater the heat loss.

3. B. False. Although a woman's subcutaneous fat is three times thicker than a man's, women tend to lose heat faster than men owing to smaller body mass and greater surface area for heat radiation. On the positive side, women will not usually ignore the effects of cold as many men do and usually take action to prevent excessive loss of body heat before it can seriously affect safety.

4. A. True. When vasoconstriction (constriction of blood vessels) shunts blood from the extremities, the blood volume in the trunk of the body is increased. The blood passes through the kidneys more frequently and water is removed to lower the blood volume. The overall effect is thicker blood, which increases the potential for decompression sickness.

5. B. False. Shivering can increase metabolic heat production five to seven times on land and is about 50 percent efficient in preventing further lowering of body temperature. Shivering is only about 11 percent efficient in water, however, and may actually result in

greater heat loss if insulation is inadequate. Shivering while diving is an indication you are losing heat rapidly and need to terminate the dive before it affects your safety.

6. D, A, C, B. Physical activity increases heat production and, therefore, heat loss. Divers suffer from hypothermia more quickly when exercising than when activity is limited. People in poor physical condition breathe more than those who are fit and lose large amounts of heat through respiration. Anxiety also affects the respiratory rate, through which significant heat is lost. Fuel is needed to generate body heat, so eat well about two hours prior to diving and you'll stay warmer.

7. C. The next greater time and depth. Recreational divers should not take chances with decompression sickness. Cold thickens blood and traps nitrogen in the extremities. Be conservative with dive profiles. Safety decompression stops are also encouraged. It is better to sacrifice minutes underwater than to risk the long term effects of the bends.

8. A. Vasoconstriction increases. Here's some good news. Chances are that the more frequently you dive, the less you will be affected by cold. The circulatory system becomes more efficient in shunting blood from the extremities, so heat loss is reduced. Your confidence and proficiency will also increase, which will reduce your breathing rate because anxiety and exertion will be reduced.

9. B. False. Alcohol causes vasodilation (expansion of the blood vessels), especially in the skin. Taken before diving, alcohol impedes the body's nor-

mal vasoconstrictive defenses. Used after diving, alcohol can release nitrogen trapped in extremities and increase the likelihood of decompression sickness.

10. B. Insulation. No matter how fit you are, how much you dive or how much you exercise in water, nothing can prevent heat loss in water better than insulation. The primary means by which heat is lost in water is conduction—direct transference of heat from the body to the water. The better the insulation, the less conduction of heat. Be fit, but wear the best exposure suit you can afford.

11. B. False. Yes, heat is shunted from the hands and feet and they do become numb after awhile; but if they become too cold, circulation is restored and they then become very efficient radiators. Gloves, boots and a hood should always be worn when the water temperature is below 60°F.

12. B, A, D, C. It is ironic that the respiratory rate increases when you get cold while diving because that leads to a greater loss of heat. This results in muscle rigidity and reduced manual dexterity. Shivering follows and, at this point, diving must be terminated because as much as one third loss of recall occurs if the core temperature of the body is lowered any further.

13. C. Dry, warm clothes and warm drinks. We need to be concerned with decompression sickness. Anything that rapidly stimulates the circulation can lead to the bends. In cases of severe hypothermia, the risk of bends from rapid rewarming may be necessary, but for standard recreational diving, more conservative approaches are encouraged. Prevention with good insulation and curtailment of diving when cold are always preferred to treatment procedures.

14. B. Have less surface area than gloves. The point of this question is the principle involved. By reducing the area exposed to the water, you can reduce heat loss. This applies to the entire body, not just the hands. This is why the Heat Escape Lessening Position (HELP) can prolong survival time for swimmers by 50 percent.

15. C. 68 feet. Foam neoprene loses half of its insulating capability at 68 feet. You lose heat more than twice as fast at this depth because you are also breathing denser air, which absorbs and carries away more body heat. If you get cold when diving, try shallower depths to stay warmer.

How is your knowledge of principles and diving practices regarding heat loss? Cold is the greatest deterrent to underwater efficiency, so I hope you either knew or now know how to reduce and recognize the problems of hypothermia. Remember: You didn't learn in your entry level course everything you need to know about diving. A great deal of information on the physiology of diving is included in an advanced course. Get training and get smarter to dive safer and more comfortably.

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Dan Ford, Hollywood, Maryland is re-searching the *City of Annapolis*, a steamship that sank in the Chesapeake Bay on February 27, 1927. Thanks to Jean Haviland, I located some interesting details about the vessel from *Steamboats Out of Baltimore* by Robert Burgess and Graham Wood, Tidewater Publishers, Cambridge, Maryland, 1968. Owned by the Chesapeake Steamship Company and captained by George Clayton, the *City of Annapolis* was heading up the bay in a heavy fog when she was rammed on the port side by her sister ship, the *City of Richmond*. The collision, which occurred near the mouth of the Potomac River, took one life—a woman whose stateroom suffered the full impact of the *Richmond's* prow.

All passengers and crew scurried onto the *City of Richmond*, whose bow was firmly ensconced in the side of her twin. With all survivors aboard, the *Richmond* reversed her engines and pulled free. Two other ships, the *City of Baltimore* and the M.D.V. steamboat *Potomac*, tried to push the vessel into shallow water. But

the upper wooden structure of the *Annapolis* crumbled and she sank quickly. Strong currents prevented salvage attempts on the 1,923 ton steamship.

Joe Rochefort, Irving, Texas says that reading SKIN DIVER Magazine inspired him to become a diver and now his dream is to search for sunken treasure. Joe writes: "I'm 29 years old and my family thinks my dream is 'utterly ridiculous,' but searching for sunken treasure is something I've thought about for a long time. Am I too old to do this? Where should I begin?"

Joe, you can be 8 to 80 to fulfill your heart's desire and search for sunken treasure; this is the epitome of the American dream. It's like winning the million dollar lottery or hitting the super jackpot in Las Vegas. It is free enterprise—a business venture that might make you rich and famous. It can also bring heartache and disappointment. But you'll never see its many faces until you try it.

I suggest you go to your local library and read every factual book and article you can get your hands on. Under sepa-

rate cover I am sending you A Descriptive List of Treasure Maps and Charts in the Library of Congress. Also, you might write to Val Martin, Florida Classics Library, P.O. Box 1657, Port Salerno, FL 33492 and ask for his brochure. Val has several interesting and informative books on treasure hunting. Good luck and happy hunting.

Jill Foster, Washington, D.C. was reading about the spy trial of John A. Walker, Jr. who purportedly began what the government says became the most damaging espionage ring in three decades. Jill spotted something in the newspaper that said Walker, in explaining who bought the classified information, replied: "The buyers were allied countries such as Israel or private organizations such as Jane's Fighting Ships." Jill wants to know more about Jane's Fighting Ships.

Fred P. Jane started publishing his voluminous collection in England in 1898, listing complete details of naval warships from all nations. This includes guns, ammunition, complement of men, photos, drawings—everything about warships. He also incorporated naval yachts, Coast Guard vessels and Navy planes in his collection. Although Jane died in 1915, one volume per year has continued to be published from 1898 to 1986. Volumes cost approximately \$80 each in England and \$100 in the United States. They can be found in marine museum libraries, the Library of Congress and private collections. If you are trying to trace a naval warship that has been sunk since 1898, you can go back to that volume from the year you think it went down or search other volumes for your ship. Jean and Ken Haviland, internationally renowned ship researchers, own a complete collection of Jane's volumes. Jean says she's used Jane's books on many occasions to help divers research naval warships.

Charles McKinney, executive director of the Atlantic Alliance for Maritime Heritage Conservation, has informed me of a new national hotline: (202) 231-3666. Members and non-members asked for this service, which provides a centralized number for quick contact with someone in the organization. A recorder will take your message and Charlie or an Alliance officer will call back. The Atlantic Alliance has been very supportive of divers. It sponsors seminars in marine archaeology, fights bureaucratic bills that would prohibit shipwreck exploration and promotes better relationships between state archaeologists and the diving community.

Ed Caram is writing a book on the WW II German sub, *U-352* sunk off the coast of North Carolina. He is trying to locate Ed Huff, David Perry and Chuck Darling, three of the first divers to visit the wreck in 1975. Caram would appreciate any help you might offer. Contact him at P.O. Box 178, Jacksonville, North Carolina 28541; (919) 346-3147.

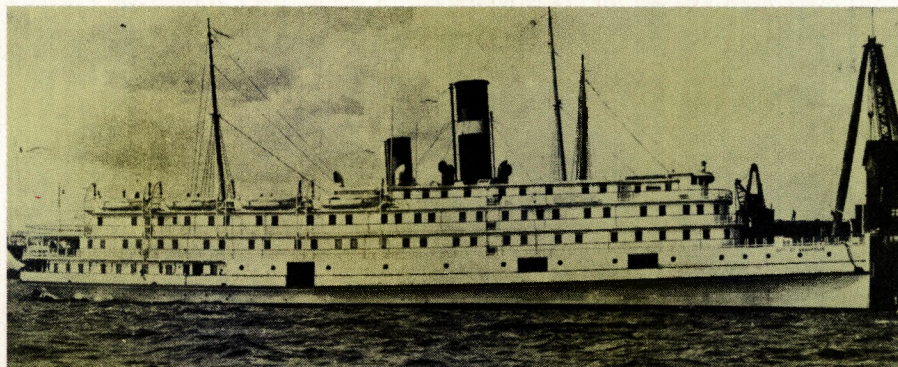
(Continued on Page 136)



Wreck Facts

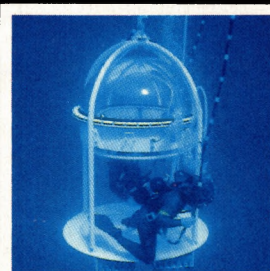
BY ELLSWORTH BOYD

The *City of Annapolis* sank in Chesapeake Bay February 27, 1927 after she was rammed by her sister ship the *City of Richmond*. The *Richmond* rescued the survivors.



photo/courtesy Mariner's Museum

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DECOMPRESSION SICKNESS

Decompression sickness is still an important problem in sport diving because of the common lack of understanding of it and the usual absence of any treatment facility at or near dive sites where it might occur. A thorough understanding of this disease, and its treatment, is essential for safe diving and for handling the occasional accident that occurs. In this article, I will discuss the basic mechanisms of decompression sickness (DCS) and some prevention and treatment principles to minimize the risk of permanent injury.

NITROGEN TISSUE UPTAKE

The cause of DCS is the uptake and removal of nitrogen from tissues during exposure to changes in pressure. Changes that lower pressure from one atmosphere can also produce DCS. This can occur in pilots going to high altitude in non-pressurized aircraft. The reduction in pressure from ground level is the same process as the reduction in pressure that a diver experiences when ascending from depth. In both cases, the nitrogen in tissues cannot exit at the same speed as the pressure falls and tissue supersaturation develops—with a tendency for the nitrogen to form bubbles.

The timing of nitrogen flow into tissues when pressure is increased depends on the blood flow to the tissue and the amount of nitrogen that can be dissolved in the tissue. The first factor is important when a diver exercises or is cold. Blood flow to exercising muscles is high and nitrogen uptake is increased. If a diver then stops exercising and cools down, the rate of removal of nitrogen from the same muscle will be lower. The other factor is the amount of nitrogen that can be held in the tissue. This factor is called the solubility of nitrogen. The capacity for nitrogen in tissues is described by Henry's Law, which states the amount of gas in tissue is proportional to the absolute pressure. Henry's Law, however, does not tell us how fast or slow gases move into the tissue. Most dives do not last long enough for many of the tissues to reach the nitrogen content calculated by Henry's Law. Since it takes a long time to reach the capacity of most tissues, we use a concept of tissue half times. This term describes the time it takes for a tissue to reach 50 percent of its capacity.

In sport diving, we are not concerned with nitrogen while at depth. Tissues are not affected—unless narcosis occurs—since there is no nitrogen super saturation while under pressure at a fixed depth. We are concerned with nitrogen when ascent begins. The rapid drop in ambient pressure cannot be matched by nitrogen flow from tissues and supersaturation occurs.

SUPERSATURATION

The concept of supersaturation is essential to the understanding of DCS.

The term indicates there is more of something dissolved than is usually expected for a given pressure and temperature. An example of supersaturation is the bubbling that occurs in a bottle of soda when the cap is removed. This occurs because the gas (carbon dioxide) is dissolved in the water at an increased pressure. When the cap is removed, the pressure suddenly drops and the amount of dissolved gas is greater than what should be present. There is now a tendency for the gas to form bubbles.

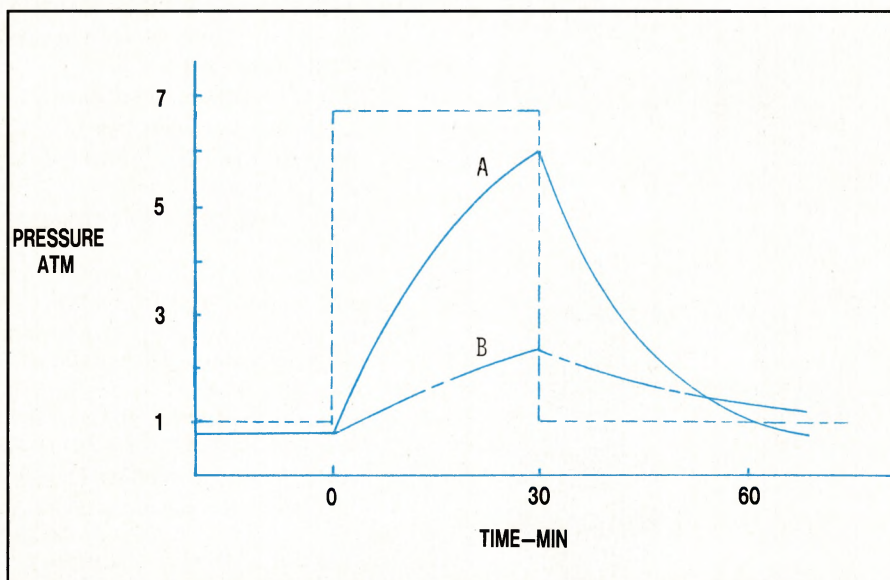
This same action occurs in the body when decompression sickness occurs. Researchers in the early 20th century discovered that a certain degree of super-

less than half the pressure at depth. This 2:1 rule is reasonable for depths that sport divers are exposed to, but in deep diving it was found to be inaccurate and smaller ratios have been used to prevent DCS from longer or deeper dives. Using this 2:1 concept, a rough diving table could be constructed by ascending to a depth that produced half of the bottom pressure, then waiting for the tissues to "catch up" with the pressure drop, ascending again to half the pressure, waiting again and so on until you reached the surface. This principle is used to generate theoretical tables that undergo tests to determine their safety and to modify them to minimize the incidence of DCS.



Diving Medicine

ALFRED A. BOVE, M.D., PH.D.



This figure illustrates nitrogen content of two tissues before, during and following a dive to a pressure of seven atmospheres. The uptake of nitrogen into tissues is not immediate. A time delay also occurs when returning to the surface and nitrogen remains in tissues even through the surrounding pressure returns to one atmosphere. Curve A represents a faster washout tissue, while curve B is from a slower tissue. The dashed line is the dive profile. Nitrogen partial pressure is lower than ambient pressure at the surface.

saturation could be tolerated before evidence of DCS was seen. This degree of supersaturation was considered for many years to be about two to one (2:1), that is, ambient pressure could be reduced to about half of the original pressure and the ascent would be safe. This is the basis for an unlimited bottom time at depths shallower than 33 feet (two atmospheres), where pressure at the surface would be

BUBBLES AND TISSUE INJURY

When bubbles form in the tissues and blood from decompression, they do not always cause decompression sickness. There may be a small number of bubbles that enter the bloodstream, travel through the veins to the lungs and are removed by the lungs. These are called "silent bubbles" and have been detected by

(Continued on Page 142)

NATURAL SELECTION

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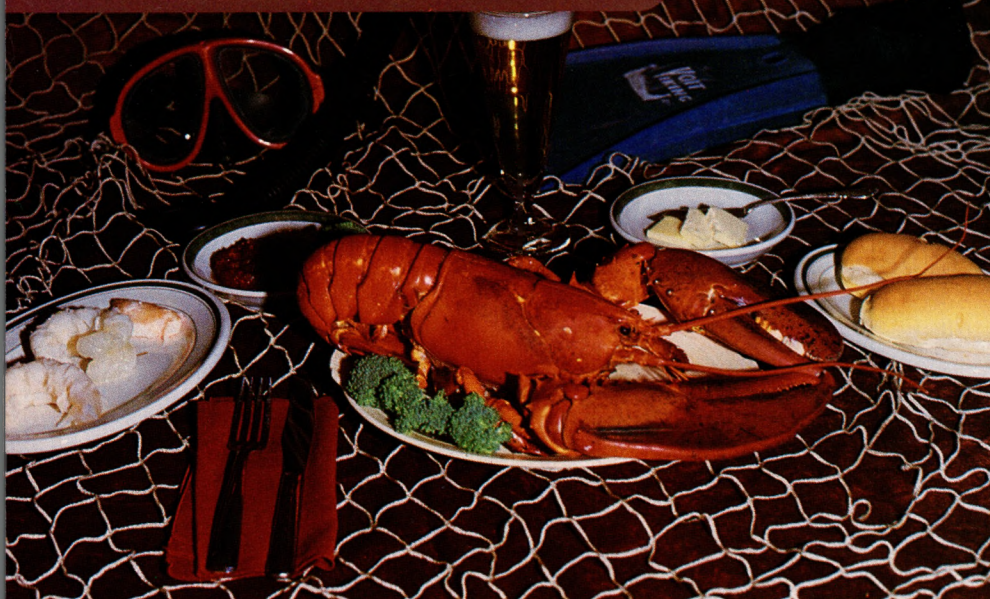


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THE GOURMET DIVER



photo/Chuck P. Zimmaro

Well, it's that time again, the time when we head down to the sea in ships to dive on the ships in the sea and bring home good old *Homarus americanus*, the North American lobster—better known to divers as the "bug."

The Random House Dictionary of the English language defines a lobster as,

"Any of various large, edible, marine, stalk-eyed decapod crustaceans of the family Homaridae." And, despite the description, we still strive to bring them up.

The purpose of this article is to help you to find, catch, prepare, freeze and store this delicacy of the deep. Nothing tastes better than a freshly caught lobster

East Coast Lobster

BY CHUCK P. ZIMMARO



Homarus americanus, the East Coast lobster, has delicious meat in its tail and claws. It can be prepared in a multitude of ways. Above: Lobster and orange cocktail.

LOBSTER AND ORANGE COCKTAIL

- 1/2 pound cooked lobster meat
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 2 large oranges
- Lettuce
- Cocktail sauce
- Nutmeg

Cut lobster meat into one-half inch pieces; sprinkle with salt. Peel and section oranges. Combine orange sections and lobster meat. Chill. Arrange lettuce in 6 cocktail glasses. Place lobster mixture on top; cover with cocktail sauce. Garnish with nutmeg. Serves 6.

Cocktail Sauce

- 1/4 C whipping cream
- 1 T mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 2 T orange juice

Whip cream. Blend mayonnaise and orange juice; fold into whipped cream. Serves 6.

LOBSTER AMANDINE

- 1 pound cooked lobster meat
- 1 C blanched, slivered almonds
- 1/2 C butter or margarine, melted
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- Dash pepper
- 2 T chopped parsley
- Toast points

Cut lobster meat into one inch pieces. Fry almonds in butter until lightly brown. Remove almonds. Add lobster meat and fry until lightly browned. Add seasonings, parsley and almonds. Serve on toast points. Serves 6.

FROZEN LOBSTER SALAD

- 1/2 pound cooked lobster meat
- 1 package (3 oz.) cream cheese
- 1/2 C mayonnaise or salad dressing
- 2 T chopped pimiento
- 1/2 C chopped nuts
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 5 drops tabasco sauce
- 1/2 C whipping cream
- Lettuce

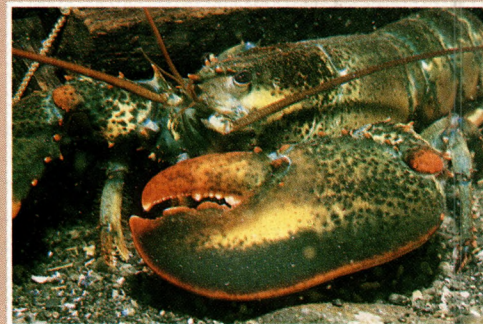
Cut lobster meat into one-half inch pieces. Mix cream cheese and mayonnaise. Add the next four ingredients and lobster meat. Whip cream and fold into lobster mixture. Place in a one quart ice cube tray; freeze. Remove from freezer and let stand at room temperature for 15 minutes before serving. Cut into six slices and serve on lettuce. Serves 6.

LOBSTER STEW

- 3/4 pound cooked lobster meat
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. paprika
- Dash white pepper and nutmeg
- 1/4 C butter or margarine, melted
- 1 pint milk
- 1 pint coffee cream
- Chopped parsley

Cut lobster meat into one-half inch pieces. Add seasonings and lobster meat to butter; heat. Add milk and cream and bring almost to boiling point. Garnish with parsley sprinkled over the top. Serves 6.

Recipes from U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries



photos/Andrew Martinez

that has been broiled and served with drawn butter and lemon!

But first, let's take a look at the lobster and his lair. The North American lobster is a true lobster, denoted by its two large claws. Even though most of the time they are erroneously called Maine lobster, they are abundant from the coast of eastern Canada to the Mid-Atlantic states.

The lobster's defense consists of two large claws, one of them called a crusher with molar shaped "teeth." These are used to grab its prey and crush, or at least hold it securely, while the other large claw, called the pincher, rips and tears the prey. The crusher claw is usually on the right. If a lobster loses a claw, antenna or leg it will eventually regenerate its lost limb over a period of time.

Determining the age of lobsters has always been a problem. Marine biologists have tagged lobster, trying to track their



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LOBSTER

migration, but because they molt several times a year, work in this field has been hampered. On the average, at the end of a lobster's second full year it will be approximately five inches long. When the bug is this small it can increase its weight 50 percent and its size one-half inch with each molt. The male lobster sheds more often than the female. Most North Atlantic lobsters shed between the months of June and September.

Shortly after shedding its old shell, the sexually mature female is impregnated by the male. The eggs are carried inside the ovarian cavity for approximately one year; then they are extruded and attached to the underside of the female's tail with a jelly like membrane. The number of eggs varies in relation to the size of the female, ranging from 8-10,000 to 80-100,000. During the summer of the following year the eggs hatch. The lobster larvae then head toward the surface where they will remain from 15 days to three months, depending on the surface water temperature, which should be about 68°F. By the time the young lobster heads back to the bottom, it will have completed four molts, be about one inch long and resemble an adult.

FINDING LOBSTER

Now that we've discussed the lobster's life cycle, let's look at how to catch them.

Bugs stay secluded during the day and hunt by night. Their food base consists of crabs, mussels, clams, fish and other bugs. The trick is to be able to recognize a bug hole when you see one, and to be able to recognize certain signs while swimming along the sand next to a wreck. Look for dark sand on a light colored, sandy bottom. A bug likes a clean habitat, so it will sweep its body wastes and scraps of food out of the hole by using its swimmerets, under its tail section. Look for crab shells, small lobster parts and crushed mussel or clam shells outside the hole. The bug will "snack" on these later. Look for protruding claws, which indicate to other creatures that this hole is occupied. Look for protruding antennae, which indicate the bug is monitoring the water to sense intruders and current changes. Care must be taken not to make any quick, sweeping movements or touch the antennae. Otherwise, the lobster will quickly retreat into its hole. In large, seemingly empty holes, take the time to look for side passages. Don't make the mistake of ignoring a hole you believe might be too small for a lobster. Many bugs will pile sand in the entrance way if the hole is too shallow for it to retreat further back. Also take time to look in holes that have fish in front of or in them. If a fish tries to scoot into a hole to

hide, sometimes the lobster will merely retreat. Look for more than one exit or entrance. Sometimes when you spot a bug all you have to do is look for the back door, reach in, grab its tail and pull it out.

Position yourself low or near the sand. Sweep your light in front of you, being careful not to swim into fishing lines, hooks or under crevices or overhangs.

Basic equipment consists of a bug (dive) light, goodie bags and perhaps, a bug hook or "tail tickler."

Now that you know how and where to look, let's concentrate on catching the bug. The best way is to grab it from behind. While maintaining a firm grip, slide your hand forward until you are holding the carapace, then pull the bug out. Caution should be taken once the bug is out of the hole because its two claws are free. Be careful of the smaller bugs' extraordinary ability to reach way back with their claws and produce a nasty pinch. But, more times than not, you'll be looking at the claws.

Once you spot a bug, move your light off it. Its sensitive eyes will detect the increased brightness and it will back off, making your job increasingly difficult. If the bug is in a deep hole, you can successfully lure it closer by playing your light beam back and forth in front of the opening. The inquisitive bug will come forward to investigate. It will be ready for an ambush, so your action must be decisive and quick. Hesitation or timidity will lead only to your grabbing a handful of sand.

Methods for grabbing the bug vary. The straight-on, two handed grab entails reaching in with both hands, first grabbing the crusher claw, then the pincher claw. This method, however, allows you only a very limited effective reaching distance of about 18 inches. The one handed thrust is the most used. Carefully but quickly thrust your hand and arm down the side of the hole to grab the bug from the side or bottom and pin it so it cannot move. You should try to get the bug off balance. If possible, reach past the claws and grab the body, but if that proves impossible, grab the closest claw, then work back until you have grasped the carapace. Using this method will allow you to reach farther into the hole with an effective distance of about 28 inches. However, before thrusting your hand into the hole, take a moment to see if one of the bug's antennae is facing toward the rear of the hole. If it is, chances are the lobster is sharing the hole with something else, perhaps a conger eel. So, look before you leap.

Once you've grabbed the bug, it will instinctively assume a defensive position. It will push its claws downward, its legs will lock and face forward, and its spike or horn—a long, narrow protrusion sticking out over its eye stalk—will be pushed into the top of the hole. Trying to forcefully pull the bug from the hole at this point is like trying to pull a mule up a ladder, and

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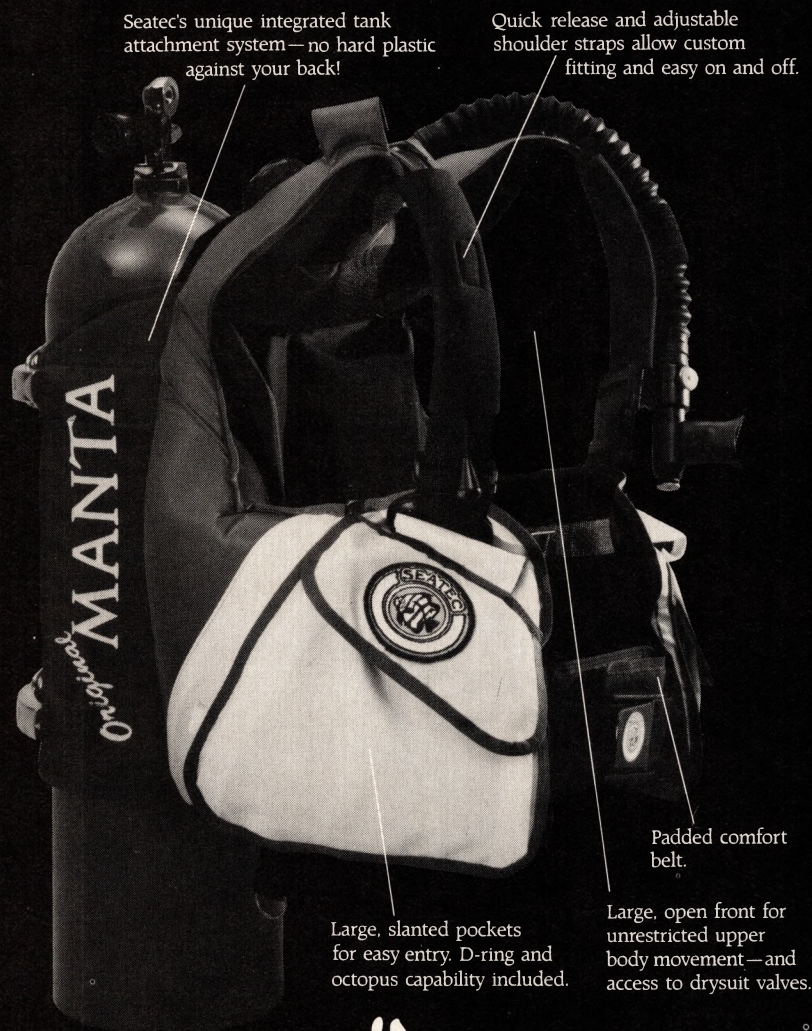
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LOBSTER

will most likely lead to "some assembly required" if you do get it out! The best way to remove the bug at this point is the push-pull method: Push the bug back to collapse the legs and unspike it, then pull it forward.

As far as lobster hooks are concerned, check your local laws. Generally, a bug hook can be any pole or stick that has a curve on one end. The purpose of the bug hook is not to gaff the bug, but to get behind it and prevent it from moving farther back into its hole. Once you've hooked a lobster, care should be taken not to puncture its delicate undersides. Hooks can be dangerous to other divers and should be handled with the same caution and care given to spearguns.

Now you've grabbed your lobster, but it's still a long way from your dinner table—you've yet to bag it. Put the bug in your goodie bag tail first, opening the bag just enough to place your catch inside. Once you've closed the bag, do not clip it to your belt. Rather, slip your hand through a rope loop on the handle so that, if necessary, you can disengage yourself from it. If you hooked the bag on your weightbelt and you did get in trouble, your natural tendency would be to not drop the belt because you have your bug bag hooked to it.

A quick word about egg bearing females. If you've caught a bug with eggs attached to her swimmerets, put her back, no matter how big she is. One female can carry up to 100,000 eggs.

If you've had a particularly successful dive and have several bugs, it might be advantageous to carry two bags—one for your big bugs and one for the others. If you put all your bugs in one bag, you might find that when you open it on the boat, you'll have lots of miscellaneous lobster parts and only one triumphant gladiator left.

LOBSTER PREPARATION

Let's face it, by the time you get home from a dive, unpack your dive gear, clean it off and clean yourself up, it's too late and you're probably too tired to cook, clean and eat your lobsters.

You may leave them in the cooler overnight; however, first you should drain all the water out of it. Then, put a bag of ice on the bottom and put your bugs on top of the bag. Try to get as many of the lobsters as you can placed directly on the bag of ice. Cover the bugs with a folded shopping bag. This will help keep the cold in. Then put the cooler lid back on.

Or, you can put live bugs in your refrigerator, preferably on the bottom shelf, where it will be the coolest. Put something under your bugs so fluids that may leak out will not drip on other foods.

If you choose to cook your bugs right away, here is a method I've used regularly with good results. First, each bug should be boiled or steamed for a time determined by its weight. I've listed below a chart that has worked out just fine:

BUG WEIGHT (pounds)	COOKING TIME (minutes)
1-1½	10-12
1½-2	15-18
2½-5	20-25
6-10	25-35
10-15	35-40
15-20	40-45
20+	Call me!

If I want to freeze my lobster I cook them half the time shown on the table. This means that if a five pound bug should be cooked for 20-25 minutes, I'll cook it for 10-12 minutes.

If you add all the bugs' weight together and divide by two and then cook them, you'll find that your smaller bugs will be overcooked and the larger ones undercooked. So, cook all your two pounders together, all your six pounders together, etc. For those really big ones, call me, I make house calls. I bring my own lemon and butter.

After my lobsters have been cooked, I place them in the sink or on the drainboard and allow them to cool to nearly room temperature. Once they have cooled down, I break off the body from the tail, discard the body and put the tail, claws and legs in two plastic bread bags. The reason for double bagging is that the small sharp points on the claws and tail could easily puncture a single bag and then your lobster could get freezer burn. Once the edible parts have been bagged, I put a wire tag on the bag. Then, most important, I use a black marker and put information on the bag, namely, the quantity of parts, the weight and the remaining cooking time required and the date caught. Example: "2 tails and 4 claws of 5 pounders, steam for 12 minutes, 8/1/85." This way, if you have several bags in the freezer, you can use the oldest bugs first.

When you are ready to eat your lobster, remove it from the freezer and defrost it in the refrigerator one day prior to its intended use. Remember to put paper towels, a bag or dinner plate under the lobster bag so as to catch any fluids that might drain off. Once it has been thawed, properly steam or boil the bug for the remaining required time. *Bon Appetite!*

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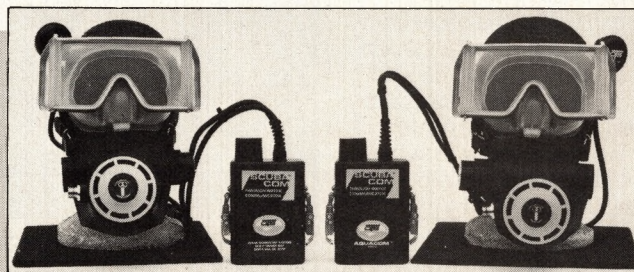
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SDM's U/W Photo Class

Mastering Nikonos Close-ups

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY JIM AND CATHY CHURCH

Underwater close-ups are fun and easy. Because you're so close to your subjects, the pictures are sharp and the colors vibrant even when visibility isn't the best. Close-up picture areas range from less than one inch across to about 12 x 18 inches or more. Thus, a variety of small critters—from flamingo tongues to friendly fish—await you.

There are two ways to take close-ups with your Nikonos camera and 35 or 28mm lens: by using extension tubes or supplementary lenses. This lesson will cover the basics of both.

EXTENSION TUBES

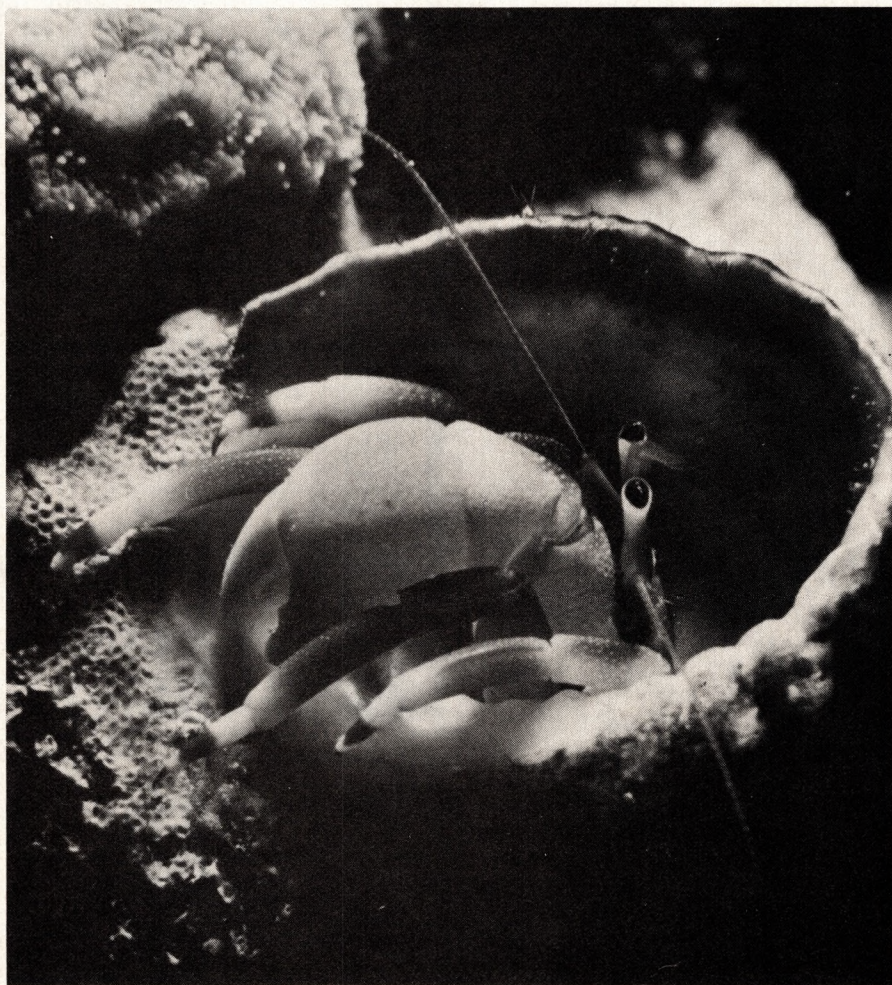
Extension tubes are metal cylinders placed between the camera body and the lens to reduce the focused distance of the lens to a few inches. The most commonly used extension tubes are the 1:1, 1:2 and 1:3. These numbers represent the image ratio of the extension tube. The first number refers to the height of the image on film; the second number refers to the subject's actual life size. For example, with a 1:2 tube (pronounced "one to two"), if the image on film is one inch, the subject's life size is two inches.

You aim the camera with a focal framer. The subject area that you want sharply focused—such as the eyes of a tiny shrimp—must be flush with the outer edge of the framer. Because depth of field is limited, the correct lens to subject distance is important. Depth of field is only about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch with a 1:3 tube, $\frac{3}{8}$ inch with a 1:2 and $\frac{1}{16}$ inch with a 1:1.

The strobe must be held extremely close to the subject. (More light is required than indicated by the aperture scale because the lens has been extended from the camera body.) The basic apertures and strobe to subject distances with a medium power strobe (one normally offering f/8 at three apparent feet with ISO 100 film) are as follows:

- 2:1 tube—f/16, 3 to 6 inches
- 1:1 tube—f/22, 3 to 6 inches
- 1:2 tube—f/22, 4 to 8 inches
- 1:3 tube—f/22, 5 to 9 inches

With the 1:2 tube, for example, use four inches for dark subjects, six inches (mid-range) for average subjects and eight inches for light subjects. If you have a



Extension tubes can capture thrilling images of small marine organisms. Since depth of field is usually small, important parts of the animals, such as the eyes of this hermit crab, should be kept near optimum distance from the lens (in line with the framer).

TTL strobe, find the distance at which the strobe signals a full power flash and then move it one inch closer.

PRESS-FIT CLOSE-UP LENSES

A press-fit close-up lens fits over the Nikonos lens mount with gentle hand pressure. They are usually held in place by friction with a nylon set screw. Several press-fit close-up lenses are available under various brand names; these are all virtually the same.

Here are tips for using press-fit lenses: Make sure the space between the two lenses is free of air bubbles; and before taking pictures, gently press the lens in

place to ensure it is seated correctly.

NIKON CLOSE-UP OUTFIT

Nikon's close-up lens fits over a Nikonos 35, 28 or 80mm lens. It is held in place by a tightening band that grips the outside of the camera lens and by a support that attaches to the viewfinder shoe. Three framers (one for each lens) are provided and these can be attached to a support rod that protrudes from the close-up lens. The picture areas follow:

- 28mm lens—5.68 x 8.51 inches (1:6)
- 35mm lens—4.30 x 6.38 inches (1:4.5)
- 80mm lens—2.09 x 3.11 inches (1:2.2)



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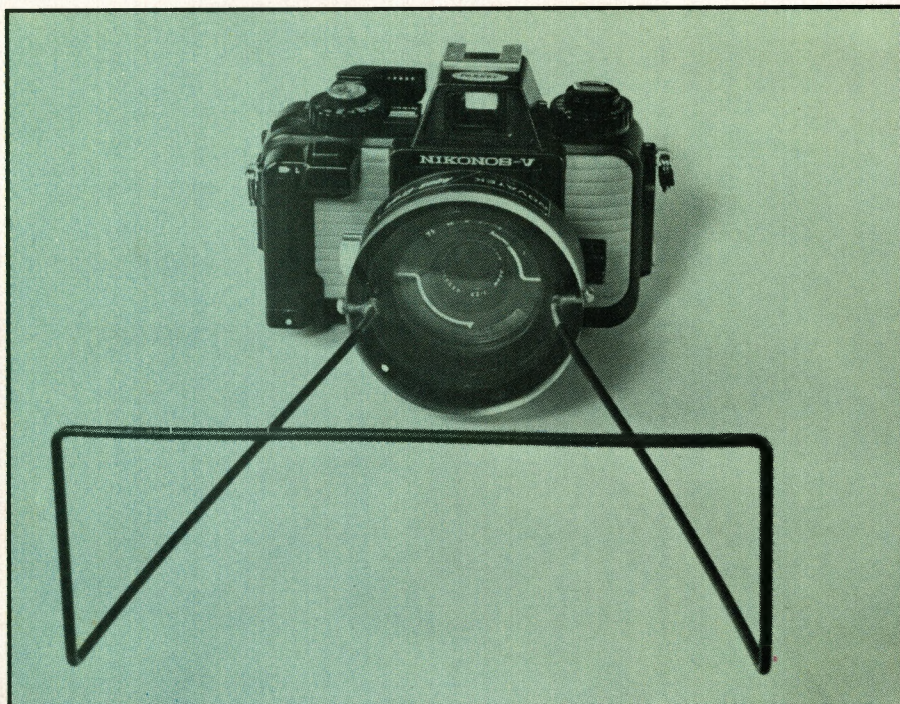
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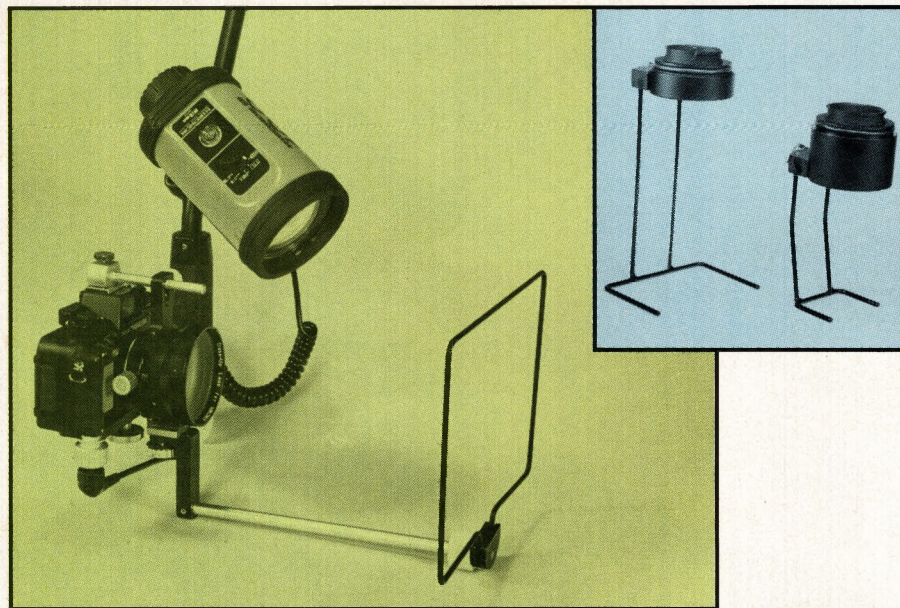
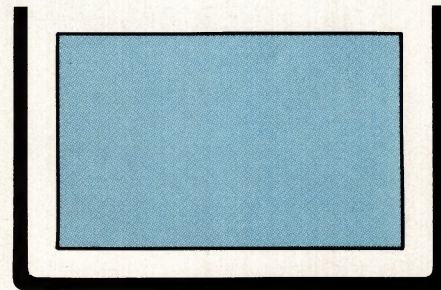
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As shown in the diagram below, there will be space between the framer and the borders of the actual picture area. For accurate aiming, you must determine exactly where the picture area borders are in relation to the framer and make marks on the framer at these points for reference.



Top: Some press-fit close-up lenses have framers that outline half the picture area. **Above:** The Nikon Close-Up Kit fits over the Nikonos 28, 35 and 80mm lenses. Different framers are provided for each lens. **Above right:** Extension tubes and framers.

The framers fit around the perimeter of the picture area, 9 1/4 inches in front of the camera. There is a 10mm (less than one-half inch) space between the border of the picture and the framer. This prevents the framer from appearing in the picture.

The Nikonos close-up lens has slots at the top and bottom of the mount so the space between the close-up and Nikonos lens floods automatically. However, check for bubbles adhering to the glass.

To aim the camera, place the framer around the subject. Begin with stationary subjects and train your eye to estimate the picture area. Later, whenever the framer bumps into the subject or bottom,

remove it. Estimate picture area by eye and use the support rod to estimate distance. To estimate where to place the end of the support rod, simply touch a thumb to the rod and place a fingertip near the center of the lens. Then, without changing the distance between thumb and fingertip, reach out and hold your fingertip at the center of the intended picture area. Your thumb now marks the spot where you should place the end of the support rod.

Fish at virgin dive sites will probably be wary of the framer. But at reefs where tame fish have trained divers to handfeed them, a fish may swim into the framer to

nibble on the food he conned your buddy into placing there.

After use, wash the Nikonos Close-Up Kit with fresh water—especially the tightening screw and mechanism that grips the camera lens. While this is the best close-up lens optically (for the Nikonos), it is very susceptible to corrosion.

THREADED CLOSE-UP LENSES

Hydro Photo has the most commonly used threaded close-up lenses. They screw into the accessory threads of the Nikonos 35 or 28mm lens or any other amphibious camera with 52mm accessory threads. Three lenses are available for the 35mm lens. The designations and approximate picture areas and lens to subject distances are as follows:

- HP #1—3 x 4.5" at 4 3/4" (1:3)
- HP #2—4 x 6" at 8 1/2" (1:4)
- HP #3—8 x 12" at 15" (1:8)

These lenses are usually aimed by a single wand attached to the accessory shoe on top of the camera. The wand is adjustable for the exact distance for the HP #1 or 2 and most of the distance for #3. Twin wands are also available. These show the exact distance for an HP #1 and half the distance for an HP #2.

To use the HP #2 and wand, for example, you aim the camera by pointing the lens at the subject to be photographed. The tip of the wand (which shows distance only) will be about one-half inch above the picture area. Note: Don't aim the wand directly at the center of the picture! To visualize the picture area, look at the back of the camera body—it is about

(Continued on Page 145)

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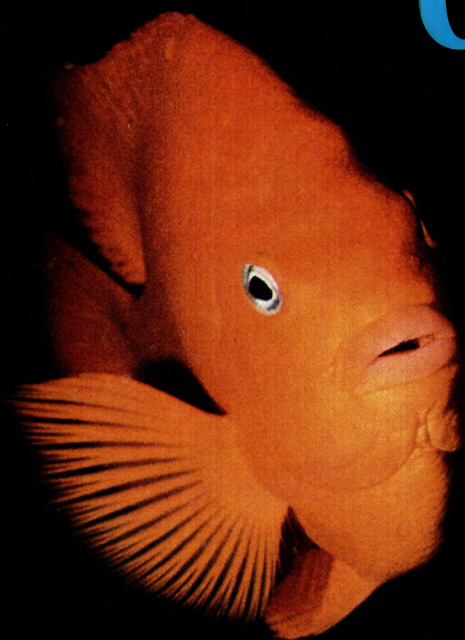
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Oceanic Omega II Color Kit

A Second Stage
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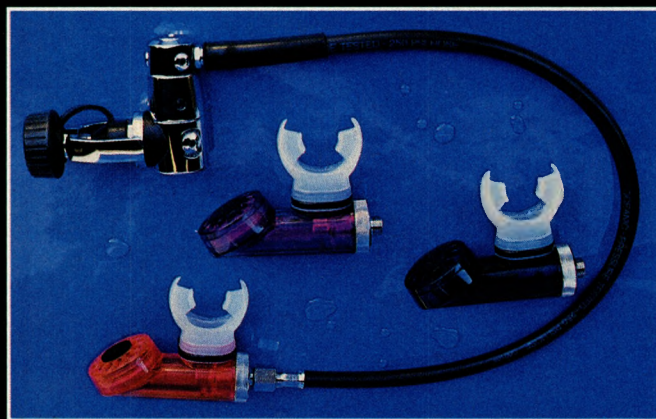


TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY BONNIE J. CARDONE

They come in delicious gum drop colors: grape, blueberry, strawberry and orange. These colorful second stages for Oceanic's Omega II look good enough to eat. What this means is that now you can color coordinate even your regulator with the rest of your scuba gear. It also means there won't be any hot spots or flare—caused by strobe light reflecting off a chrome regulator—in your U/W photos if your model uses one.

The grape, blueberry and strawberry Omegas are transparent. The opaque, high visibility orange version is intended to be used as an octopus and comes with an extra long, 33 inch hose. It is very bright and "almost seems to glow underwater," according to Pat McKenney, Oceanic marketing manager. I don't have to tell you why this would be advantageous. Using one in Southern California waters, however, produces a unique result. While diving with this orange second stage off Anacapa Island, Pat found that garibaldi seemed attracted to it. The fish and this particular Omega are almost identical in color. Pat told me garibaldi usually maintain their distance around her but on this occasion they lost their shyness, seeming intensely curious and coming quite close. Indeed, a cloud of the brightly colored fish followed her around all during the dive. If your buddy has trouble keeping track of you underwater, perhaps you should consider an orange Omega II: Using a regulator that glows and is surrounded by a school of orange fish, you'd be hard to lose!

The Omega II is the improved version of the Omega (see



The Omega II Color Kit consists of four second stages—in blueberry, grape, strawberry and orange—for the MaxFlow first stage. The orange version is intended to be used as an octopus.

George Cozen's report on this regulator in *SKIN DIVER*, November 1983). Its first stage—called the MaxFlow—is a conventional, balanced flow through piston design, chosen because it offers dependability and high performance. It is brass, with three coatings: copper, nickel and chrome. The original Omega had four low pressure ports on a swivel, the Omega II has five. The fifth port is larger than the others and accommodates a low pressure hose with a larger internal diameter, which allows increased air flow to the second stage.

The Oceanic Omega really departs from the ordinary with

its second stage. We've already mentioned it comes in colors. But, that's just one of several characteristics that separate it from other second stages. One of the first things you'll notice is its unique shape. Because of this it can be used just as easily either right side up or upside down. The Omega II is larger than the original Omega and, according to Oceanic, this has resulted in a 20 percent reduction in breathing effort. The housing is strong, lightweight Lexan® plastic. The mouthpiece is surgical grade silicone and orthodontically designed. These last two features combine to reduce jaw fatigue.

According to Oceanic, the Omega II has a "Bio-engineered servo-assist second stage." This is "downstream in design and adjustable to balance inhalation effort with intermediate pressure." Translated into layman's language this means, simply, that the Omega II is an easy-breathing machine.

You can get the Omega II in any of the colors shown here—with the MaxFlow first stage—for \$260. The colorful second stages are available separately (for use with an Oceanic first stage only) for \$122. The orange octopus, with hose, is \$140.

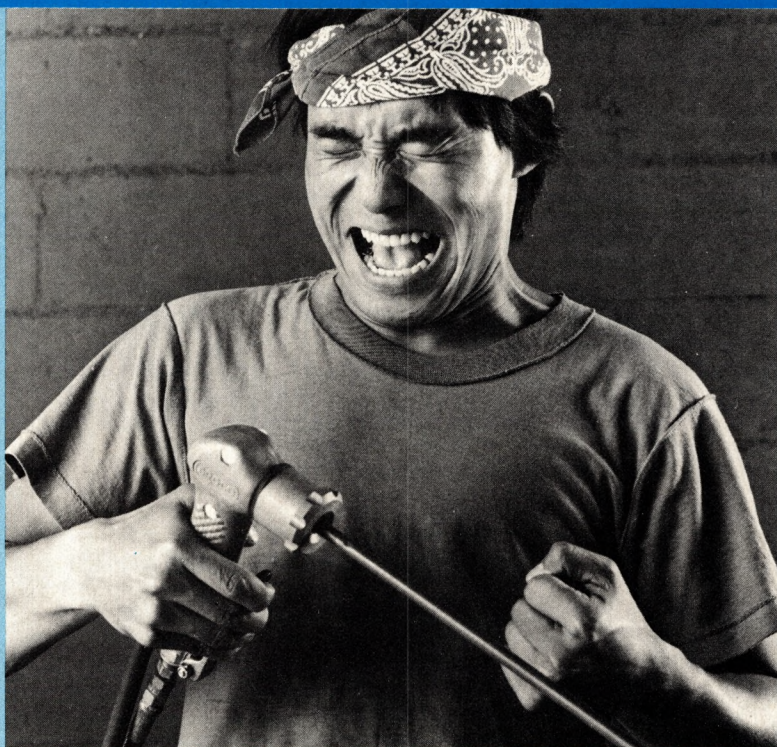
By now you should have realized there's more to an Omega II than just pretty colors. If you really prefer basic black in your dive gear, the second stage is available that way, too. But, before you make up your mind you *don't* want a colorful regulator, see the Omega II at your dive store. Can 1,000 garibaldi be wrong? >>>

LONG ISLAND SHIPWRECKS

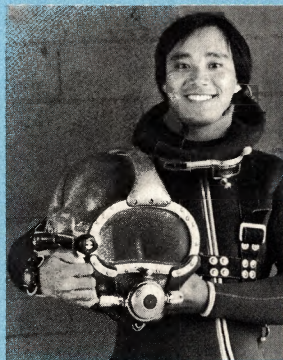
Aqua Explorers, Inc. has just published a plastic laminated Loran C coordinate list of Long Island shipwrecks. Dan Berg, a professional scuba instructor and avid wreck diver, has combined his Loran coordinates with those of Captain Steve Bielendas. Together they have created a much needed weatherproof tool for fishermen, divers and boat captains. The *Wreck Valley* Loran list contains more than 60 accurate shipwreck locations for inshore and offshore shipwrecks as well as fish havens off the New York bight. Wrecks such as the *Acara*, *Andrea Doria*, *Bald Eagle*, *Durley Chine*, *Lizzie D*, *Oregon*, *Pinta*, *San Diego*, *Texas Tower*, etc. will finally be accessible to all serious fishermen and divers. Also easily referenced is the depth of water for each wreck and a page number that references historical information, photographs and drawings that can be found in the book *Wreck Valley*.

Copies are available for \$14.95 plus \$1 postage and handling, direct from: Aqua Explorers, Inc. 22 Maiden Lane, Lynbrook, NY 11563. The publisher offers a money back guarantee. >>>

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WENOKA SEA STYLE DIVE-PAC

BY JIM WALKER

Carrying a fully loaded gear bag can be a tricky business. Obeying the law of gravity, it seeks the lowest point in the arc provided by your arm. Depending on your height and the length of your arm (You've heard the term, gorilla diver?), that point happens to be somewhere from beneath your feet to between your knees.

The most comfortable way to carry heavy loads is on your back. To fill this need, Wenoka/Sea Style has designed the Dive-Pac. This is not just a gear bag with shoulder straps, it's specially designed to be used as a diver's backpack. Its overall dimensions are 22 x 24 x 13.5 inches—4.1 cubic feet. (A smaller version is available—see SDM, June 1985.) This large storage area is divided into five compartments, each of which closes with a noncorrodible plastic zipper.

The Dive-Pac is made of tough Z-Tex nylon. All seams are double sewn with nylon thread for strength. All stress points are box stitched with an extra piece of material inside for reinforcement. The shoulder straps are padded and their upper attachment point is reinforced with a band of sewn-on nylon webbing. The side of the pack that goes against the wearer's back is padded as well. The straps have snap-in plastic buckles and can be adjusted for a comfortable fit. A padded nylon webbing carrying handle is

attached to the top of the pack.

Dual cinch straps of adjustable nylon webbing are attached to both the top and the bottom of the pack. With these, you can tighten your load and prevent its shifting. You can also use these to strap on a towel, jacket, etc. Five plastic triangular D-rigs are sewn onto the pack. They can be used to attach the optional 1800-S shoulder strap or tie on gear such as spearguns or a sleeping bag.

The Dive-Pac's compartments are designed with specific gear in mind. The large central chamber will hold your wetsuit, mask and snorkel, gloves, hood, dive light and lots more. It has a plastic key clip sewn inside. Either of the long side pockets will hold your fins and the other your BC/backpack (if it has a soft tank band). The side chambers and main chamber have grommets for drainage.

Both compartments on the back of the pack are padded on all sides. You can fill one with your regulator and instrument console and use the other for dry storage or even as an insulated food storage chamber. Additionally, the upper chamber has a sewn-on flap that creates a slip-in slot for maps, dive tables, etc.

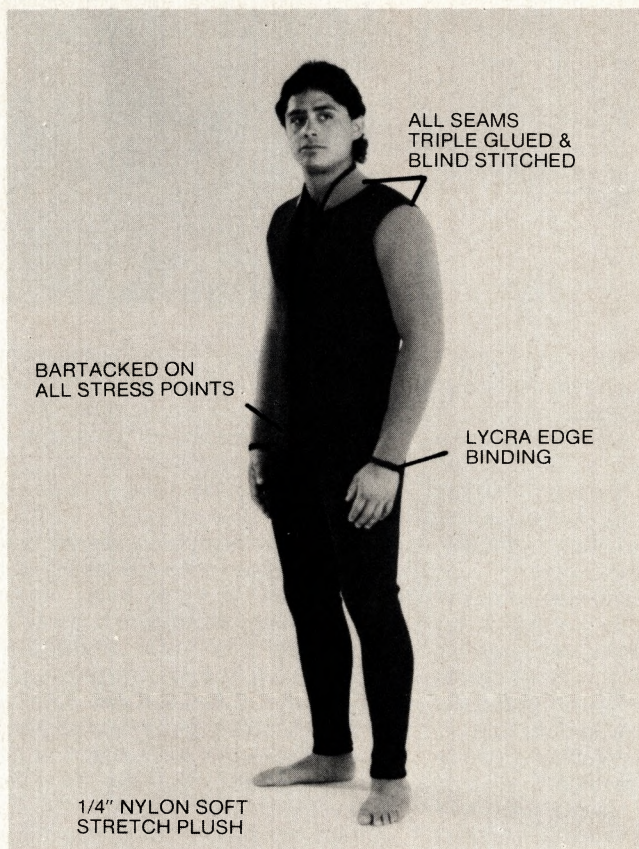
The Dive-Pac (model # 1862) is available in attractive combinations of blue/red, red/black or black/silver for \$99 at Wenoka/Sea Style dealers. 



The Dive-Pac is designed to ride comfortably on the shoulders. Made of tough Z-Tex nylon, it features a large center pocket that will hold a complete wetsuit and more. Side pockets will hold fins or a BC and there are two padded storage chambers.



photos/Bonnie J. Cardone



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Technifacts

BY E.R. CROSS



A story that had the impact on as many people in 1939 as did the rescue of personnel and final salvage of the submarine USS *Squalus* from 240 feet of water has, since then, generated a lot of adjective ridden superlatives and not a few overstated myths. Some of the fictionalized accounts of the happenings involved divers; some, what the divers found or saw. Others are about the job itself.

THE DIVERS

"There were hundreds of divers working on the job," is one of several overstatements frequently encountered. The best estimate I have been able to arrive at is that 53 divers worked on the rescue of most of the crew and ultimate salvage of the *Squalus*. A copy of the dive log of the USS *Falcon* records a total of 640 dives and that is the number I have used in working out the data shown in the

accompanying table. The actual number is not important; the important aspects of the rescue and salvage work are that, in spite of all difficulties, the organizational ability and the response of the U.S. Navy—from Commander in Chief, President Franklin D. Roosevelt to Lieutenant K.R. Wheland, assistant salvage officer—made the job a success.

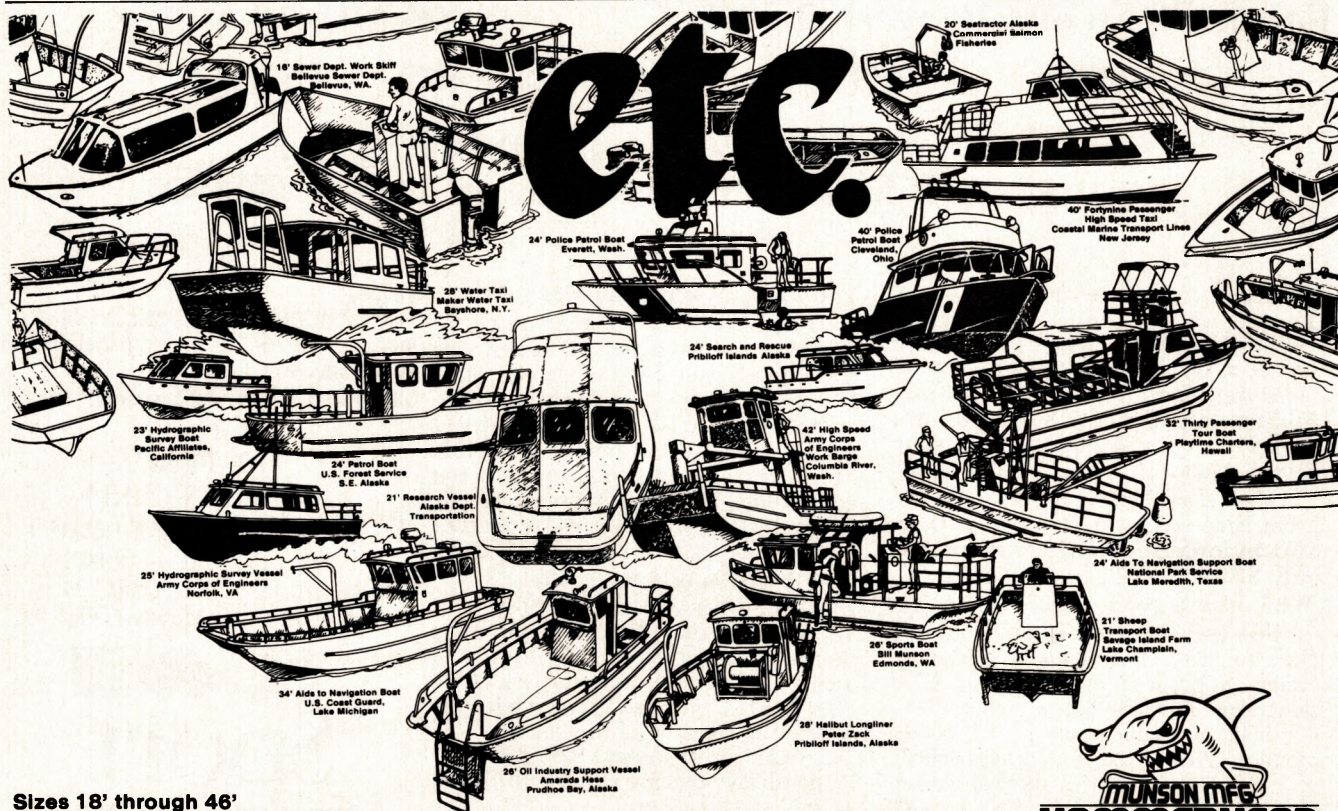
In correspondence, and also in conversations, with divers who worked on the *Squalus*, their response to my question, "How many dives did you make on the job?" produced answers not compatible with dive log records. One diver told me he had made dozens of dives when in fact the log shows he made only 14; 9 on compressed air and 5 using a heliox mix. Of these, six were unsuccessful. Another diver who stated that he "worked on the *Squalus* job" attempted only one dive. This was to 240 feet using compressed

air. The dive was aborted owing to psychological impact on the diver who had to be transferred from the operation.

The greatest number of dives, a total of 21, was accomplished by BM1 F.E. Smith. Twelve of his dives were on compressed air; nine on heliox. Of the 21 dives, all were completed and the objectives of the dives accomplished in all but three dives: an outstanding record! Another outstanding record of diving was that of then BM2 Martin Sibitzky (now Captain, USN, Retired) who made a total of 14 air and 6 heliox dives. All except two were successfully completed and the job objectives met except in one other dive. One master diver with many years of experience had 10 out of 16 dives aborted or failed to complete the assigned tasks.

Again, it should be stressed that num-

(Continued on Page 40)



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Photos by Tom Ingram

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RMS TITANIC

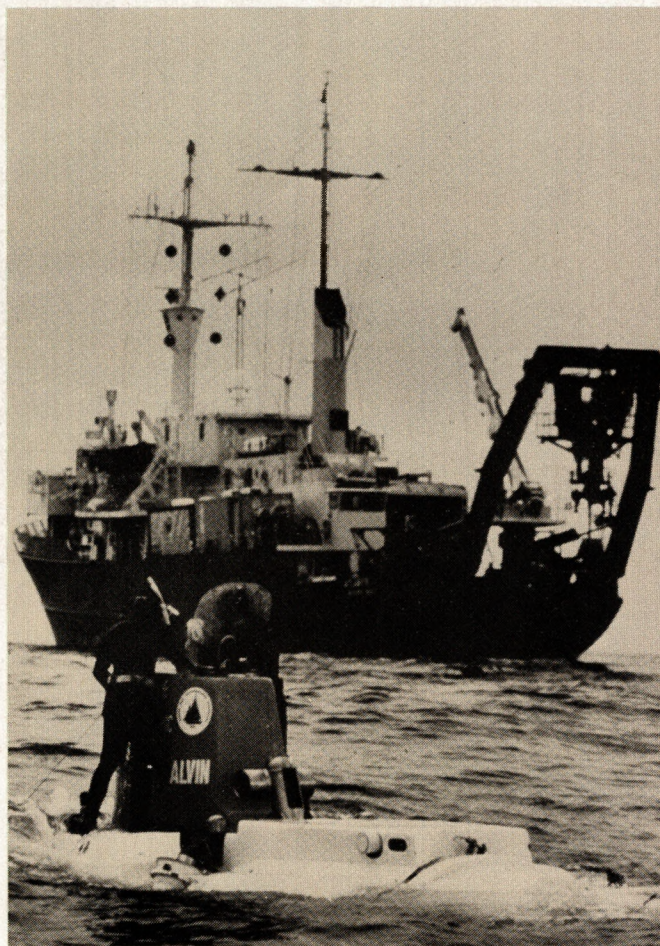
Queen Of The Deep

She is one of the most famous shipwrecks in the world. An 883 foot long "unsinkable" luxury liner, she struck an iceberg and sank on her maiden voyage from Southampton to New York. Her demise was dramatic, inspiring at least one book, Walter Lord's *A Night to Remember*, that was made into a movie. I watched this film, released in 1958, as a child. I have never forgotten the scene where the band plays bravely on as the *Titanic* upends and sinks.

The *Titanic* went down on April 15, 1912. She wasn't seen again for nearly three-quarters of a century. On September 1, 1985 a French-American expedition descended 12,500 feet into the Atlantic Ocean and came upon her remains. The lights from their submersible *Alvin* were the first to shine upon the *Titanic*, now clothed in perpetual darkness, in 73 years.

Aside from the incredible depth and the darkness, other conditions ensure that few will have the privilege of viewing the ship in person. Currents are so strong that items made of brass, glass and copper are kept highly polished. The pressure at this depth—two and one-half miles underwater—is about 5,800 pounds per square inch; nearly 400 times sea level atmospheric pressure. For souvenirs, expedition members lashed eight foam plastic cups, decorated with drawings of the *Titanic*, to *Alvin*'s hull: The pressure at 12,500 feet crushed these to one inch in height and turned them rock hard.

The discovery and first exploration of the *Titanic* took



Surfacing from a 1985 dive on the *Titanic*, the 25 foot, three man, Deep Submergence Vehicle *Alvin* awaits pickup by the RV *Knorr*.

BY BONNIE J. CARDONE

place more than a year ago. Last summer, scientists from Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, sponsored by the U.S. Navy, again visited the wreck and spent 11 days diving on her. Their findings have shattered many of the myths surrounding the *Titanic*.

Most now believe the vessel is beyond salvage. Her bow is buried up to her anchors in 30

to 40 feet of mud. It is separated from the stern, which faces the opposite way, by one-third mile. The mid section of the wreck is gone. Accounts of survivors indicated the ship broke up on the surface, before it sank. This could have been the result of an explosion, caused by ice-cold water reaching the vessel's enormous, coal fired boilers. Dr.

Robert Ballard, expedition leader, says the ship may also have imploded on the way down. In any case, some items photographed in the debris field that extends beyond the stern have been identified as having come from the mid section, but the section itself has not been found and is thought to have disintegrated.

The myth of the giant tear in the ship's hull—supposedly caused by the iceberg—has also been disproved. According to Ballard, "We couldn't find any of the iceberg's gash. We found buckled plates and sheared rivets. There is not a 300 foot gash."

The expedition found no human bones, but this is not surprising. Although 1,522 people lost their lives when the ship went down (only 705 survived), probably none of them was inside the ship when it sank. No one was hurt when the *Titanic* struck the iceberg. In fact, the collision was so mild that only a slight jarring sensation was felt.

The *Titanic* hit the iceberg at 11:40 pm; it did not sink until 2:20 am. The majority of those who perished drowned or died of exposure. Although the night was crystal clear and the sea, glassy calm, the temperature of the water was only 28°F. When the *Titanic* went down, those left onboard were forced into the icy water. Only 18 lifeboats were launched and, not all of them were full. Because it was feared they would be swamped by swimmers trying to get into them, those in them rowed away from the ship. One returned and saved four men. Nine men also managed to clamber

aboard other lifeboats that had not gotten far enough away to avoid them. When the *Titanic* sank, the nearest vessel was two hours away. Those afloat in their lifejackets in the icy water would not survive long enough to be rescued.

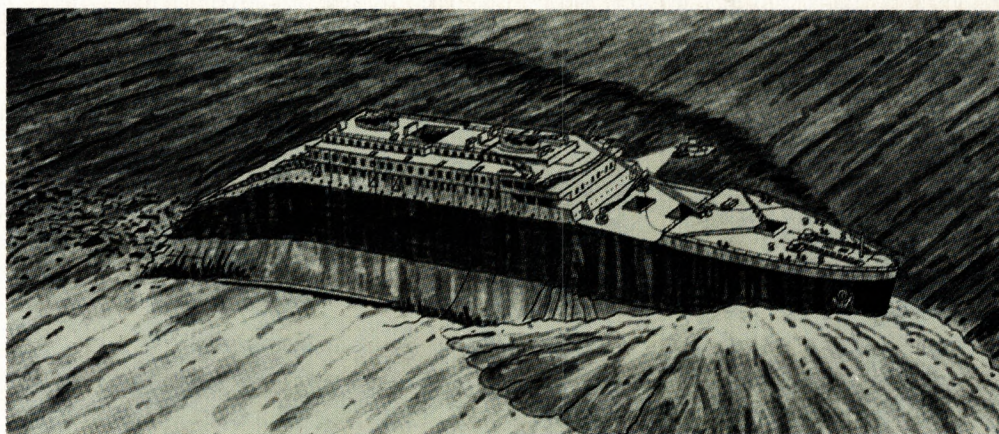
In its December 1985 issue, National Geographic stated: "While all children in first and second class were saved, two-thirds of the children in third class perished." The Los Angeles Times reported that twice as many men in first class survived as children in third class and more than half of all first and second class passengers were rescued. Indeed, the book, *A Night to Remember*, reports that 336 women, 315 men and 52 children were saved. One hundred three women and 53 children died. So much for "women and children first."

THE EXPEDITIONS

Pictures from the first expedition were a monochromatic blue. This year there was excitement generated by what Ballard called "rusticles." Looking like orange icicles, they decorated large areas of the hull. One of the very first photos released this year showed a chandelier in either the first class smoking lounge or the grand ballroom. Growing from one side of it was a seafan. The pictures shown here were released shortly before we went to press.

The Woods Hole team operated this year from the *Atlantis II*. Scientists would go down in the 25 foot, three-man Deep Submergence Vehicle *Alvin*. This 22 year old submersible has an interesting history. She was built by the U.S. Navy and given to Woods Hole in 1964. One of her first missions was the location of an H-bomb, dropped in the Mediterranean in 1966 when an Air Force B-52 and a flying tanker collided over Spain. The bomb was recovered by *Alvin* after two months of work. In 1967, the submersible was attacked by a swordfish at 2,000 feet in the

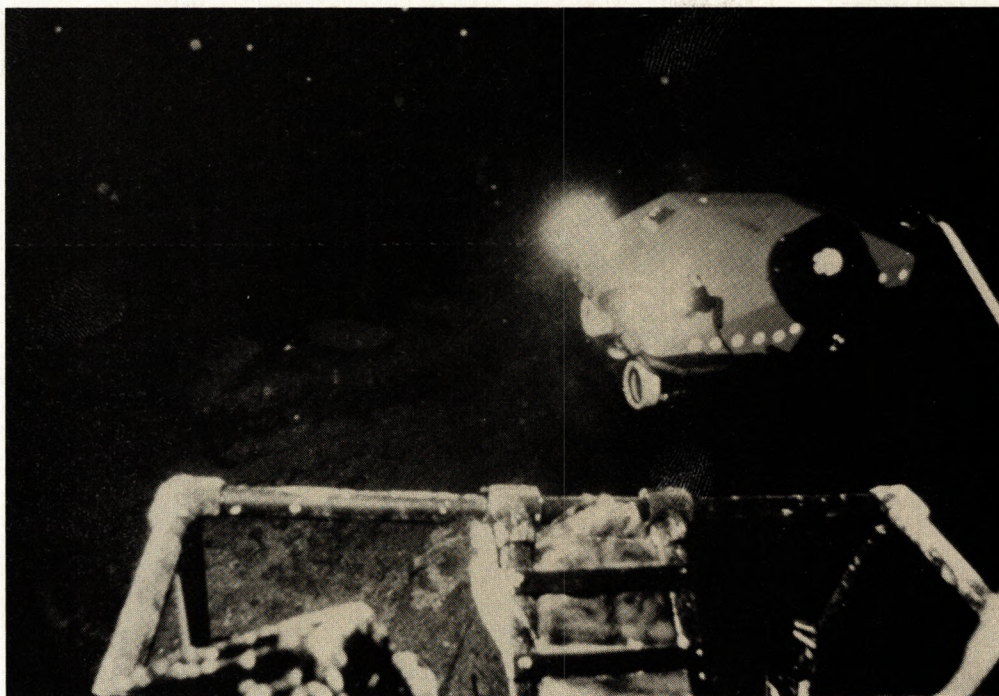
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illustration/© 1986 National Geographic Society



Above: As this illustration depicts, the *Titanic* lies upright with her bow buried up to her anchors in mud. The stern lies one-third mile away and the mid section apparently disintegrated. Left: Icicle-like collections of rust nearly obscure one of the *Titanic*'s port-holes. According to Dr. Robert Ballard, expedition leader, such "rusticles" decorate large areas of the ship's hull.



photos/courtesy Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute

The *Titanic* expedition was the first deepsea test for Jason Jr. Carrying both video and still cameras, the prototype vehicle photographed the remains of the 74 year old shipwreck. Jason Jr. operates at the end of a 250 foot electrical tether and is controlled by an operator inside *Alvin*. During ascent and descent the little robot is housed in a special protective "garage" mounted on *Alvin*.



If Inspector Clouseau ever became a diver, he'd surely utilize one of Harvey's Reversible Fun Set Suits. With six wetsuits in one, he could have an underwater disguise for nearly every day of the week. "Six suits in one?" you ask. Yes, at least.

The Reversible Fun Set is a two piece wetsuit that will easily adapt to a wide variety of watersports activities, water temperatures and color schemes. Available in three thicknesses ($\frac{1}{8}$, $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{16}$ inch) and in male and female versions, it features a shorty and a zippered jumpsuit.

HARVEY'S FUN SET WETSUITS

BY JIM WALKER

Thus, you have three suits: the shorty alone for warm water, the jumpsuit for cooler water or windy watersports such as windsurfing and the shorty worn under the jumpsuit for even cooler water.

As the name implies, the Reversible Fun Set Suit is fully reversible. The colors are completely different on each side. Harvey's consulted other equipment manufacturers and selected its suit colors to coordinate with many masks, snorkels and fins on the market today. One side of the men's suit is bright blue with bright yellow insets down the sides. The suit reverses to navy blue with red insets. Yellow thread on the red insets adds a nice accent. One side of the women's suit is bright blue with pink insets. The opposite side is navy blue with shiny lavender insets. Matching, reversible hoods are available. Gloves and zippered booties are available to match both suits. With all

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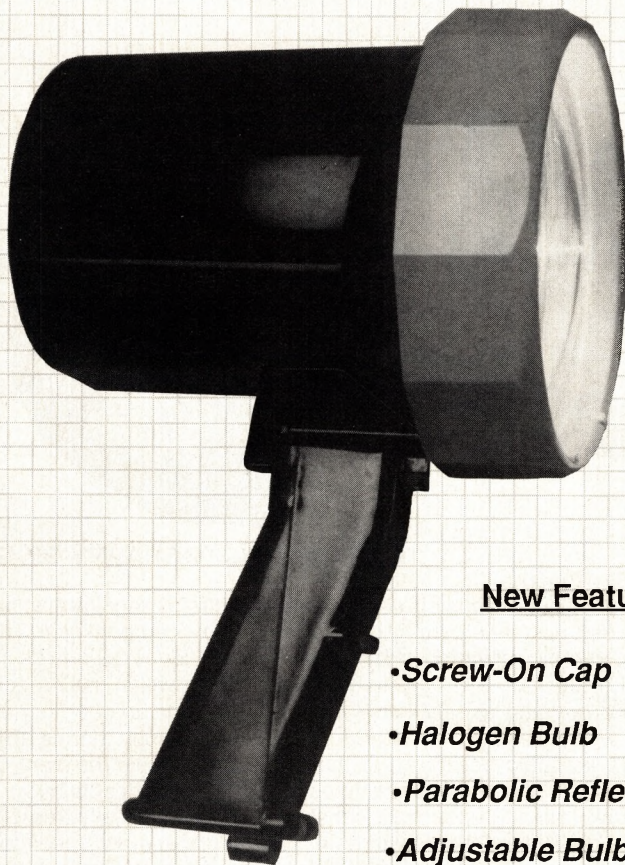
Harvey's Reversible Fun Set Suits have colorful shorty tops and jumpsuits. Here, Dan Purdie and Pam Cardone wear shorties and Pam also models the jumpsuit.



photos/Bonnie J. Cardone

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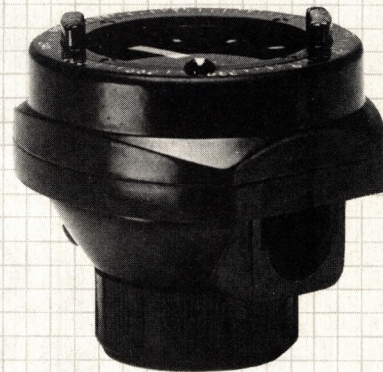
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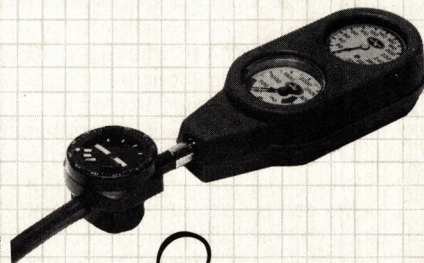


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TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY ERIC HANAUER

Whether you call it an octopus, an alternate air source, a safe second, or any of the other popular euphemisms, the extra second stage regulator is an idea whose time has come. In the new standards recently adopted by all scuba training agencies, an octopus (we prefer the original name) is required of all entry level students for all training dives. If this device is used in training, divers are more likely to purchase one after they become certified.

Supplying every diver with an octopus is certainly superior to buddy breathing for out-of-air situations. Successful buddy breathing requires fine coordination in an emergency between two people who probably haven't practiced the skill since their initial training course. Compared to that, octopus sharing is a snap.

Yet, there is serious disagreement on how the octopus should be worn or used. Some divers just let it drag behind them in the sand. Some attach it to their buoyancy compensators with a rubber plug or with a Velcro® strap. Others hook it to their weightbelt or keep it in a BC pocket. In actual use, some prefer to keep the primary second stage and offer the octopus, while others maintain that the person who is out of air should receive the easier breathing primary regulator, while the donor breathes from the octopus.

Because of differences in equipment and organizational philosophies, there has been no standardization on use of

the device. Most experts agree, however, that the octopus should be in plain sight, where it can be easily found by a needy diver. Furthermore, dragging through sand and banging against rocks is hazardous to the health of a second stage, therefore it should be affixed to the diver's body. Dr. Glenn Egstrom, a noted expert in diver safety, recommends that the octopus be located somewhere in the "golden triangle" from the diver's chin to his or her waist.

Another problem in the use of octopuses is the proliferation of hoses. Do you remember when we used to have single hose regulators? Today, it is not unusual for a first stage to sprout five hoses: the primary second stage, an octopus, the BC inflator, a drysuit inflator and a submersible pressure gauge. First stages are beginning to look like flower pots.

What if someone invented an octopus that is positioned within the golden triangle; settles the question of who uses which second stage; and combines the function of two low pressure hoses into one? Two versions of such a device are now available. One has been on the market for several years. The newest one, the Sherwood Shadow, made its debut this year. Its innovative design has probably caused competitors to wonder, "Why didn't we think of that first?"

The secret of the Shadow is simply a Y-fitting that allows the BC inflator hose to perform double duty: supplying air to the

octopus regulator as well as to the buoyancy compensator. Thus the Shadow is positioned alongside the corrugated BC hose, within easy reach of the diver's left hand. In an out-of-air emergency, the donor merely hands the primary second stage to the recipient, picks up the Shadow and uses its air.

Mechanically, the Shadow is basically the same as Sherwood's other octopus regulators. Sherwood produces six different models with right and left-hand fittings, with or without a heat retention unit. One is set up especially for hookah diving, with the pressure set for shallow, sur-

SHERWOOD SHADOW OCTOPUS

Hose length.....20", 1st to 2nd stage
5½", 2nd stage to BC

Second stage:

Type.....Downstream, lever action

Materials.....Case and cover:
Lexan® plastic

Diaphragm and exhaust valve: Silicone

Mouthpiece and exhaust shroud: PVC

Color.....Orange, black, blue or yellow

Features.....Purge button depresser
built-in

Y-valve, for BC inflator

Warranty.....Limited lifetime,
including parts

Price\$170



The Sherwood Shadow is an extra second stage that, by means of a Y-fitting, is positioned on the low pressure hose between the first stage of the regulator and the BC inflator mechanism. In an out of air emergency, the donor gives his/her primary second stage to the buddy in need of air and breathes through the Shadow.

ce-supplied use. Unlike the others, the Shadow is distinguished by its new, slotted bezel and mini exhaust shroud. Too small to be called a tee, this one won't get caught or snagged when handled. Exhaust bubbles do tend to rise in front of a diver's face, but this isn't a problem on a short ascent.

Inside, the primary difference between the Shadow and Sherwood's Magnum series is the lack of a roller at the end of the diaphragm lever. In the Magnum, the roller reduces friction against the diaphragm plate and allows airflow to begin more easily. Although low cracking effort is desirable in a primary regulator, it is the leading cause of air loss in an octopus. Octopuses don't need a hair trigger and the added friction of the lever against the diaphragm plate results in a slight detuning effect.

The Y-fitting is elegantly simple. The external portion of the second stage valve body is extended outside the plastic housing. A small orifice opens to the side, confined between two O-rings. A collar slides over the O-rings, with another orifice that feeds air into the fitting to which the short BC hose is connected. When the BC inflator button is pressed, some air is diverted into its inflation system.

In practice, the Shadow performed exactly as advertised except for one problem. Our first test model was an early production run, with a hose about six inches longer than the one now in your dive store. Consequently, the Shadow did not lie perfectly flat against the BC hose. Sherwood's John Canna supplied us with one of the new hoses. This resulted in a cleaner, drag-free profile.

While I was swimming on the surface, the Shadow had a slight tendency to bubble occasionally. Adjusting the cracking (initial inhalation) effort to a higher tolerance stopped the bubbling. This requires removing the low pressure hose swivel nut, then adjusting the now visible orifice with a screwdriver. (In the near future, Sherwood will switch to a slightly stiffer poppet spring, which will eliminate the need to adjust your Shadow.) Most divers prefer a higher cracking effort on an octopus to prevent accidental air loss.

I spent an entire dive using the Shadow as my primary regulator. It performed smoothly at depths to 100 feet, with no unusual characteristics. Clearing was easy, whether using the purge button or blowing the water out. The attached BC hose did restrict head movement somewhat, but that wouldn't be a problem on a straight trip to the surface, for which this regulator is intended.

At the end of the dive, my buddy and I did several ascents from depths of 30 to 60 feet. Again, everything went smoothly, with good airflow even when both of us inhaled at the same time. Then, to test the system under stress, I did something no diver would ever do on an ascent. I pushed the auto-inflator button and the purge button on the primary regulator, while breathing from the Shadow. Despite the heavy load on the system, it still provided plenty of air. Of course, any regulator's performance is greatly dependent upon its first stage. In our tests, we used Sherwood's balanced piston first

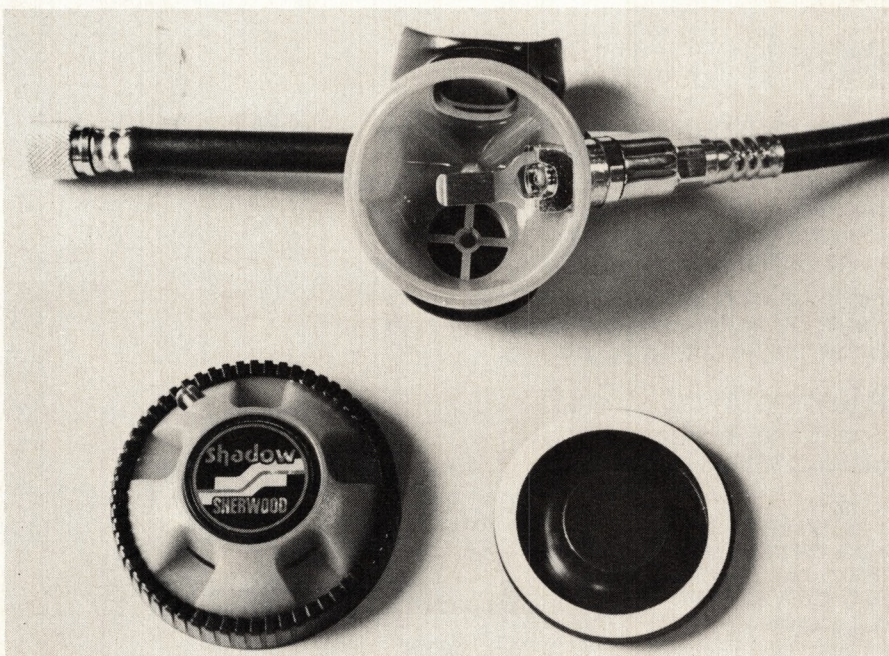


Since the BC's corrugated inflator hose is easily moved, the connection from Shadow to inflator mechanism can be short and still reach the air donor's mouth in an air sharing situation. The out of air buddy can then use the longer hose of the primary second stage—as demonstrated by Clardy Lennert (donor, at left) and Jodi Butler.

stage, which continues to deliver good airflow at low tank pressures. An unbalanced first stage would degrade the Shadow's performance.

The Sherwood Shadow is an innovative idea that has been well executed. It provides what could become a definitive answer to the questions of how to wear an octopus and how to use it. And, in doing so, it helps to combat first stage hose sprout. The price of progress is \$170 at your Sherwood dealer.

The primary difference between the Shadow and Sherwood's Magnum series of regulators is the lack of a roller at the end of the diaphragm lever. This roller is not necessary in the Shadow as low cracking effort is not important in a short emergency ascent.



TECHNIFACTS

(Continued from Page 32)

bers mean little. Some divers, as in the case of the one who "failed" in 10 out of 16 dives, were assigned jobs with an extremely high degree of difficulty; jobs that possibly no diver could be expected to accomplish except after many different approaches to the difficult task.

The accompanying table shows some of the facts that affected rescue and salvage accomplishments during the *Squalus* work.

USE OF OXY-HELIUM

The 1943 *U.S. Navy Diving Manual* states, "Oxygen-helium mixtures were used almost entirely by the divers in the salvage of the *Squalus*..." A study of the table indicates this is obviously not true since only about one-third of all dives were made using this gas. It is true that of the 316 dives to a depth of 200 feet or more, 209 dives (66 percent) were made with heliox mix. It is also apparent that a higher percentage of heliox dives were aborted than were dives on air and there was a higher percentage of failure to complete assigned tasks U/W when using heliox mixes. And, finally, there was a lower percentage of dive/job completions with heliox than with air dives.

SQUALUS SALVAGE OXY-HELIUM VS. AIR DIVING

Actual Depth	Assumed Average Depth	Breathing Gas	Total Dives	Dives Aborted	% Dives Aborted	Dive Completed But Job Incomplete	Dive and Job Complete
240-245	240	Air	85	18	21%	24/28%	43/51%
		Heliox	163	18	11%	55/34%	90/55%
220-225	220	Air	4	2	50%	1/25%	1/25%
		Heliox	30	2	7%	14/47%	4/46%
195-205	200	Air	18	2	11%	2/11%	14/78%
		Heliox	16	3	19%	3/18%	10/63%
160-180	170	Air	6	0	0%	2/33%	4/67%
		Heliox	2	1	50%	1/50%	0/0%
145-150	150	Air	6	1	17%	1/16%	4/67%
		Heliox	3	1	33%	1/33%	1/34%
120-125	125	Air	8	2	25%	0/0%	6/75%
		Heliox	1	0	0%	1/100%	0/0%
98-105	100	Air	22	1	5%	1/5%	20/90%
		Heliox	4	1	25%	1/25%	2/50%
95-97	95	Air	215	4	2%	36/17%	175/81%
		Heliox	7	2	29%	1/14%	4/57%
90-93	90	Air	45	0	0%	3/7%	42/93%
		Heliox	2	0	0%	1/50%	1/50%
Less Than 50 Feet		Air	1	0	0%	0/0%	1/100%
		Heliox	2	0	0%	0/0%	2/100%
Total		Air	410	30	7%	70/17%	310/76%
Total		Heliox	230	28	12%	78/34%	124/54%
Grand Total		—	640	58	9%	148/23%	434/68%

Again, it should be stressed that many factors other than breathing gas entered into the decision to abort a dive or prevented a diver from completing an assigned task. Difficulty factors, new, untried tools and fittings and, importantly,

lack of experience in working at depth and with a sub disaster, were diver failure producing elements.

The ratio of helium to oxygen in the breathing gas mix used by the Navy for the *Squalus* work was 75 percent helium

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and 25 percent oxygen. The pre-mixed breathing gas was shuttled to the *Falcon* from shore in large cylinders. The mixed gas was then installed in "the rack" and pressures and volumes controlled as required by diver depth and work load.

The dive profile used was generally a bottom time of 20 minutes at the maximum depth of 240 feet. This was followed by in-water decompression stops of seven minutes at 80 feet, three minutes at 60 feet and five minutes at 50 feet. The divers were then brought to the surface for an additional 45 minutes of decompression at 50 feet while breathing oxygen in the recompression chamber. Most dives to 240 feet were of less duration than 20 minutes. A few were longer.

In spite of an occasional "blow-up" from a depth of 240 feet and some divers missing the decompression stage and finding themselves on the surface, there were only three cases of bends. All cases responded to treatment and the divers recovered completely. Also, all divers treated for bends returned to diving and completed the work involved in the salvage of the vessel.

DIVER FINDS

The after escape hatch on the *Squalus* was in the after torpedo room. These hatches had skirts extending several feet down into the boat. In practice, the sub could flood only until seawater pressure and air pressure were equal. Then no additional water could enter the sub or escape hatch. Crewmen knew this and also knew it presented a way out of the sunken sub.

On May 25, 1939, Badders and Mihalowski made the final descent with the McCann rescue bell to check for life in the after compartments of the *Squalus*. At 1745 the bell reached the escape hatch in the after torpedo room at 240 feet. At 1803 the bell was seated and pressure between the surrounding ocean, the bell and the submarine was equalized. At 1819 both bell and submarine hatches were opened by Badders while Mihalowski operated valves and fittings to keep the bell seated. When the submarine hatch was opened, Badders reported a terrific rush of air followed by a gush of water under pressure into the rescue bell. It was necessary for Mihalowski to increase the air pressure within the bell to force the water back into the submarine. At 1826 the bell ascended to the surface.

On September 1, 1939, day 96 of the salvage job, diver A.A. Philips made a dive to the after part of the *Squalus*, by now in only 96 feet of water. He reported, "Found number ten pontoon lying on deck. After torpedo room hatch was open, pontoon was beating against it." The following day diver Martin Sibitzky made a dive to inspect the open hatch. "Found torpedo room hatch open, one dog broken off, gasket about half out of

(Continued on Page 144)

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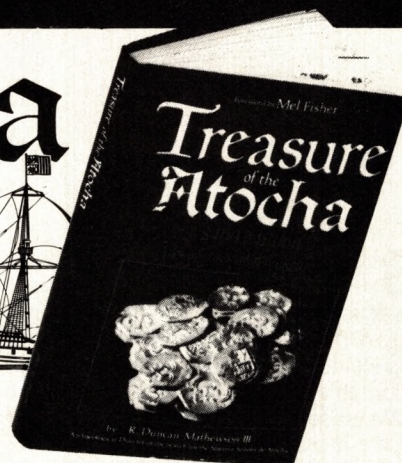
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DIT

Real World Training For Commercial Divers

BY DAN MONTGOMERY

Straight talk, hard work and real world training—that's the guarantee at the Seattle-based Divers Institute of Technology (DIT). As this commercial diver training institution nears its 20th year of operation, this guarantee is as strong as ever. "We place a strong emphasis on training in a natural work environment," says John Ritter, president of DIT. "We average two hours of hands-on training to one hour of classroom."

Right on the water at the Seattle ship canal, DIT prides itself in offering a comprehensive diver training program in the type of work environment that a commercial diver faces everyday: deep dives, cold water, low visibility.

NEW MANAGEMENT SAME DEDICATION

DIT was established in 1968 by former Navy diver John Manlove who, along with vice president and business manager Charles F. Litzo, forged it into one of the

most prestigious and complete diver training institutions in the world. In March 1986, Manlove and Litzo retired and turned over the helm to chief instructor John Ritter and his partner Norval Duncan, a vocational education specialist.

Although the names at the top have changed, the curriculum and training remain as rigorous and challenging as ever. DIT features deep dives to the 200 foot level from the school's training vessel on Lake Washington and educates trainees on every aspect of commercial diving from underwater welding and demolition to photography and video.

"It's always taken a special breed of cat to make a commercial diver," reflected Manlove. "Not everybody is cut out for this type of work. It requires the ability to work closely with other people in a rigorous environment."

This ability, it is interesting to note, has little to do with gender. DIT has trained numerous women divers—including a for-

mer Miss Washington. The current class has four females, each pursuing a career she finds challenging and rewarding.

IN-DEPTH TRAINING

The course of study at DIT is a six month, highly intensive Professional Deep Sea Diving program. Featuring open water dives to 200 feet on surface supplied air as well as a mixture of helium and oxygen, the students are run through the entire gamut of commercial diving skills and experiences: Underwater welding and cutting, construction, photography and video, search and recovery, harbor clearing and dredging—in short, virtually every aspect of professional diving is covered during the 26 week course.

Throughout this process, a strong emphasis on safety is paramount. With more than 2,000 graduates and a cumulative total in excess of 900,000 hours underwater, there has never been a single ac-

(Continued on Page 130)

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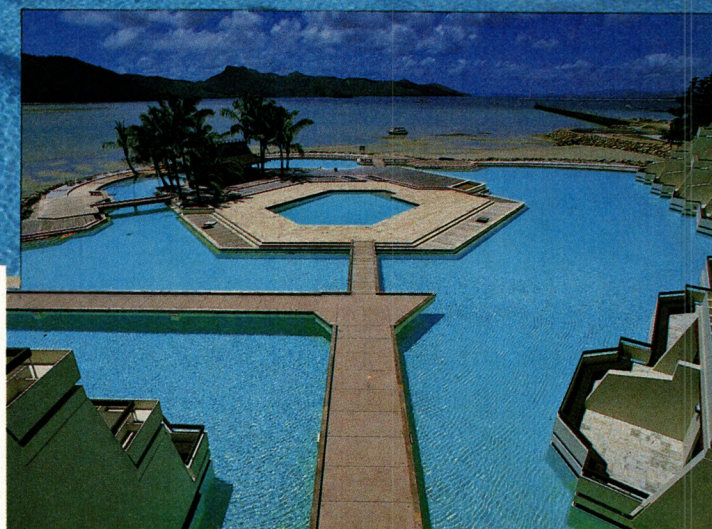
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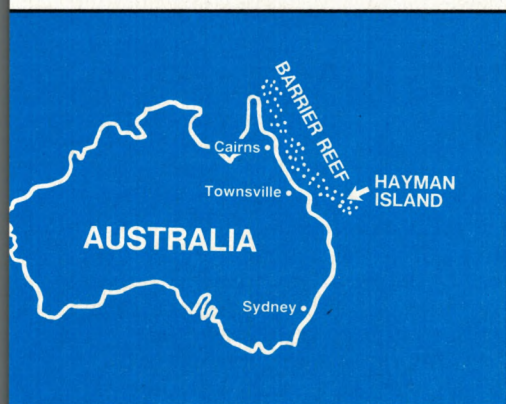
The Ansett International Hotel Hayman features a futuristic, tiered-back architecture and the west wing overlooks a gigantic, million gallon freshwater swimming pool. The hotel's executive suites feature large living rooms. Below: Hotel guests are transported from Hamilton Island on the *Sun Goddess*. Lower left: Silver alcyonarians are just one attraction of Bait Reef. Bottom: Seaplane excursions over the Great Barrier Reef offer awesome views of this natural wonder.



Diving News From Down Under

Hayman Island's Super Class Resort

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERI MURPHY



Ansett Hotels & Resorts is nearing completion of its \$140 million resort redevelopment project at Hayman Island, in the Whitsunday Islands group of Australia's Great Barrier Reef. Designated a "world class resort," the luxurious new Ansett International Hotel Hayman is scheduled to open December 15.

The hotel will debut its West Wing, which consists of 84 elegantly decorated rooms, plus six executive suites. Each room is equipped with color television, direct dial telephones, refrigerator, radio, alarm clock and air-conditioning.

The West Wing rooms face the ocean and overlook a spectacular lagoon swimming pool, one of the largest in the world. Equivalent to five Olympic sized pools, it contains more than one million gallons of filtered fresh water.

In addition to the swank hotel accommodations, Ansett is opening three different restaurants, a complete marina and a variety of sports facilities. Two more restaurants will be completed in April 1987.

A full service dive center is now under construction. On the hotel premises, it will be equipped with two giant air compressors, rental scuba gear, snorkeling equipment, a scuba boutique and a U/W camera rental department complete with film processing. The Hayman Dive Center will be completed by April 1987. It will be



Paddleboard and catamaran rides in Hayman Island's lagoon offer an alternative to diving. Hayman is midway between Heron Island and Cairns.

operated by Tony Fontes and Maureen Prior, owners of Barrier Reef Diving Services of Airlie Beach. Tony and Maureen have been in business six years and operate a PADI Five Star facility.

In conjunction with the Hayman Dive Center, a new custom dive boat is being built by Precision Marine of Australia. Named the *Reef Goddess*, it will be a 60 foot long, high speed monohull capable of cruising at 20 knots, fully loaded. The craft should be able to make the 18 mile trip from the hotel to Bait Reef in 45 to 55 minutes. The dive boat is designed to carry approximately 25 to 30 scuba divers and snorkelers. It will operate on a daily basis, departing the hotel each morning and returning in the afternoon.

Of the 74 islands in the Whitsunday

group, Hayman Island is closest to Bait Reef, an almost circular atoll on the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef. The outer perimeter of Bait Reef is ringed with vertical drop-offs running from 10 to 120 feet deep. Inside is a placid, shallow water lagoon filled with magnificent coral gardens. There are at least 20 dive sites in the Bait Reef area.

Possibly the best wall dive site is Manta Ray Drop-Off, named after the friendly manta rays that frequent this spot from May through September. The mantas have wingspreads of 4 to 10 feet. Visibility ranges from 50 to 90 feet.

Stepping Stones is another excellent drop-off dive consisting of an unusual cluster of slender coral pinnacles rising from 80 feet to within a few feet of the surface. These fairyland formations are covered with colorful marine life.

Nudibranch Point is a favorite site for photographers interested in macro pictures of brilliantly colored nudibranchs. Nearby is Christmas Tree Rock. Other popular dive sites include The Maze, North Lagoon, Pitt Street, Southern Face, Gary's Lagoon and South Lagoon.

Hayman Island is 15 miles off Australia's Queensland Coast and positioned midway between Heron Island and Cairns. Access to this area has become very convenient with the advent of direct jet service to adjacent Hamilton Island. Ansett Hotel guests are transported from Hamilton to Hayman aboard the hotel's \$1.7 million luxury yacht, *Sun Goddess*.

Ansett Airlines operates direct jet service from Sydney to Hamilton on a daily basis except on Thursdays. Direct jet flights from Cairns to Hamilton operate daily except on Wednesdays. Qantas operates daily jet service from major West Coast cities to both Sydney and Cairns.

For more information and reservations, contact Ansett Airlines, 9841 Airport Blvd., Suite 418, Los Angeles, CA 90045; (213) 642-7487 or Dive In Australia, 50 Francisco St., Suite 205, San Francisco, CA 94133; (415) 928-4480. ✈



31 BERTRAM

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY STEVE LUCAS

Maybe you've seen their ad. You know, the one where the yacht is about to do a high dive off the top of a gigantic wave? No? Well, since you haven't, let me tell you about it: Drawing from the experience of a grateful owner who wrote to say thanks for building one tough boat, Bertram came up with a great ad based on the true account of a boat-er's nightmare.

With a graphic illustration, the ad tells the harrowing tale of how this boater and his wife encountered a tidal wave very near Mexico's Cabo San Lucas. Out of nowhere the boat was caught by a wave that moved so fast across the otherwise nearly calm sea it lifted the yacht 25 feet into the air and left it suspended in space! After crashing back into the sea the Bertram showed hardly a scratch and continued on its way as if nothing had happened. So, what do you say after dropping your yacht onto what must have felt



Bertram boats have gained a reputation for reliability and seaworthiness. The 31 foot Flybridge Cruiser, shown here, has a dinette that converts to a double berth.

like a concrete ocean? The lady's answer was, "Thank goodness it's a Bertram."

If you listen to other Bertram owners you'll soon find her sentiments are not rare. One adamant Bertram owner told me that around the world rough weather is known as Bertram weather. "When the going gets so rough you can't get out, the only people who will get out will be in a Bertram," he said. In fact, the Bertram family of boats seems to thrive on being solid, comfortable yachts that can survive tough use and tough seas. At the 1986 Miami International Boat Show the wind and waves off the coast were so bad everyone had to cancel their sea trials. Everyone that is except Bertram. One editori-

al later said something to the effect that if you saw the outer markers of Government Cut during that boat show you were definitely on a Bertram.

Boats such as the 31 foot Flybridge Cruiser are the things of which boating legends are made. In the summer of 1958 Miami yacht broker Richard Bertram watched a 24 foot boat ferry crew members about a very rough sea at the America's Cup trials. Bertram was amazed at the ability of this craft to show grace and stability despite rough waters. Designed by C. Raymond Hunt, the *Hunter* was about to make boating history: It was the first of the deep-V hulls. Bertram asked Hunt to build a similar 31 foot wooden boat, which was completed in 1960. Despite the boat being built for pleasure, not racing, Bertram decided to enter the *Moppie* (his wife's nickname) in the Miami to Nassau Ocean Powerboat Race. Conquering 10 to 12 foot seas, it won! Only one other boat even finished. Bertram's new boat was the biggest breakthrough in boat designs in almost one-third century.

In a Hialeah, Florida warehouse Bertram set out to commercially build his now famous Bertram 31 using what was then a fairly new method of building boats: fiberglass. The *Moppie* was used as a mold and the entire production immediately sold in advance at the 1961 New York National Boat Show.

Today, the same basic 31 foot hull is still available and remains one of the company's popular yachts. With years of engineering, innovations for boats such as the 31 and other Bertrams are tested by naval architects in model form before being incorporated into the line. Still built of fiberglass, the mat and woven roving is cut to exact size using patterns to assure the right amount goes into every hull. Between each layer resin is sprayed, brushed and rolled by hand to guarantee regularity and the absence of voids, which produce weak spots. The end result is recognized worldwide as one of the top pleasure craft. Each is built to the same rugged standards and with the same handling characteristics.

Bertram gives an extraordinary amount of attention to detail. Each fuel tank for the 31 is built in-house of fiberglass and pressure tested to ensure there are no leaks. An even slightly defective unit is not repaired, but discarded.

Because one of the most troublesome features of any yacht is the electrical system, every effort is expended to make a Bertram electrically trouble free. The system is laid from wires precisely cut to exact length (never spliced) and color coded to facilitate tracing. All are tie-wrapped and cushion clamped at distances of not greater than 12 inches. Where they might chafe at bulkheads or other obstacles, they are cushioned and protected. Every wire and component is individually tested

photo/Fores Johnson

before it leaves Bertram's electrical shop. To prevent stray current corrosion, all Bertrams with fixed electrical systems have copper grounding straps running the full length of the boat.

At 10,600 pounds and 30' 7", the Bertram 31 has a maximum beam of 11' 2" and a draft of 2' 9". Fuel capacity for the pair of 340 hp Mercruisers is 222 gallons. With the same hull design as the original *Moppie*, the Flybridge Cruiser has a lot more amenities. With a large cabin, the boat can sleep four. Two have the added privacy of a forward cabin with its V-berth, while the others share the port space otherwise occupied by a dinette that converts to a double berth.

To the starboard side, just inside the main cabin, is an enclosed and extremely well appointed marine head with sink and shower. Forward of the head is a galley with sink, counter top and refrigerator. An 18 gallon freshwater tank capacity allows for drinking and shower needs for a reasonable amount of cruise time. To make cruising more enjoyable, a Blaupunkt stereo system is built-in.

All fabrics and carpeting for the interior of the yacht are specially selected for aesthetics and durability in the ocean environment. If you choose, Bertram's design group can work with new owners to create an interior to almost any special color and pattern specifications.

The aft cockpit has 110 square feet of free space and enough room for one-half dozen divers to suit up comfortably. The boat does, however, have a minimum of below deck storage that requires the addition of tank racks along the gunwales. Dive platforms can be added as an option by your dealer.

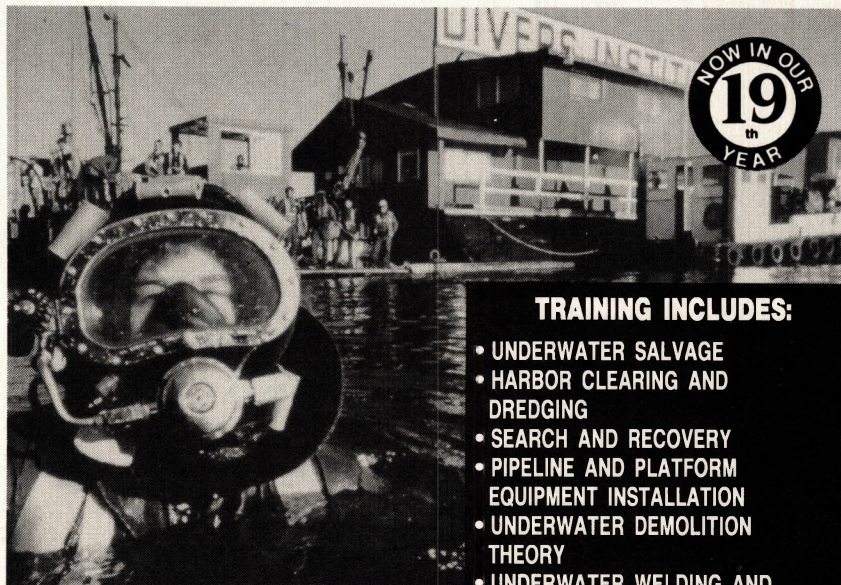
As for the ride, the Bertrams I have dived from were among the most solid and stable of any boats available, although I wouldn't want to try and duplicate the one owner's ultimate test of leaping off a 25 foot wave. According to factory marketing personnel, the ride is so popular with most owners that many are now on their second, third or even fourth Bertram yacht as they continually move up through the line.

With a five year hull warranty, the base price of the Bertram 31 is \$108,000 FOB. For brochures, catalogues and the name of a Bertram Yacht dealer near you, contact Bertram Yachts, 3663 NW 21 Street, Miami, FL 33142. ✻

GREAT LAKES FESTIVAL

On November 1 the Buccaneers' Scuba Diving Club will present the Sixth Annual Great Lakes Wreck Film Festival. This event will be held at 7:00 pm at the Thomas Moore High School Auditorium in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Featured guests are Paul Ehorn, Steve Radovan and Dave Trottier. These guests will present four Great Lakes wrecks. For information contact Brian Black, 3901 S. Clover Drive, New Berlin, WI 53151; (414) 784-4174. ✻

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Novurania MX 570

A Luxury Inflatable

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY GEORGE COZENS

Talk about exciting! The new Novurania MX 570 is, with a capital "E." Although the MX 570 hasn't been out very long, it has met with enthusiastic response in Europe. In fact, it has been accepted as one of the "in" boats by members of the upper crust at some of the more posh resorts around the Mediterranean Sea. Style it has, in a rugged, functional sort of way.

The artist's conception in the Novurania catalogue doesn't do the MX 570 justice. When I first saw this boat, sitting atop its trailer at the rear of Port-A-Marine in Costa Mesa, California I was really impressed. It is big—as in massive. But, despite its large size, the ribbed, deep-V fiberglass hull, gray tubes with blue racing stripes and swept-back light bar gave me the impression this boat could literally fly off the trailer and start soaring like a high performance airplane.

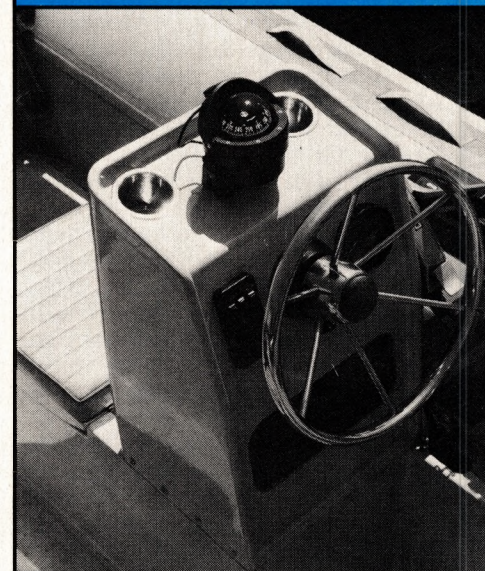
I was anxious to try this boat in the water. Fortunately, I didn't have long to wait. As soon as our diving and photography equipment was loaded we were off for Newport Harbor. Scott MacIntosh's mid-size pickup truck towed the boat easily: As tested, the MX 570 weighed only about 550 pounds and with an 85 hp engine still weighed less than 1,000

pounds. That's not a lot of weight for a boat of this size and capacity. Overall, the MX 570 is 5.7 meters, or 18'8" in outside length, with a 7'7" beam. The catalogue gives the internal dimensions as 14'1" by 3'11". The tubes are large, for greater stability and carrying capacity. They measure 22 inches at their maximum diameter and contain four separate air chambers. The fabric used for the tubes is woven with a heavy 1,200 denier (about 1,300 decitex) polyester yarn, coated with neoprene and Hypalon in a multiple calendaring process: Hot neoprene is rolled into and onto the fabric under pressure in two separate passes through calendaring machines; a third calendaring step applies an outer layer of Hypalon. This latter makes the tube material more resistant to ozone, gasoline and the normal rigors of boating. These tubes are bonded to the molded fiberglass hull. Besides the ribbed, deep-V bottom, this hull includes: a molded transom, rated for a maximum 130 hp engine, with an integral "splash box" just forward of the transom for catching and draining water that splashes over the stern; a steering console with a stainless steel ship's wheel; a molded deck; and molded, cushioned

(Continued on Page 138)



The Novurania MX 570 combines a rigid V-hull with large inflatable tubes to provide excellent tracking, carrying capacity and a smooth ride. At nearly 19 feet long, the MX 570 offers a payload of 3,200 pounds and padded seats (with storage lockers beneath) for 11 passengers.



The steering console is aft, on the right, just in front of a padded bench seat with back rest. Recommended horsepower for the boat is 100, but with five people it was able to plane quickly and cruise at more than 40 knots with an 85 hp engine. With proper coordination, the MX 570 should accommodate four to six divers.



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DUTCH CARIBBEAN

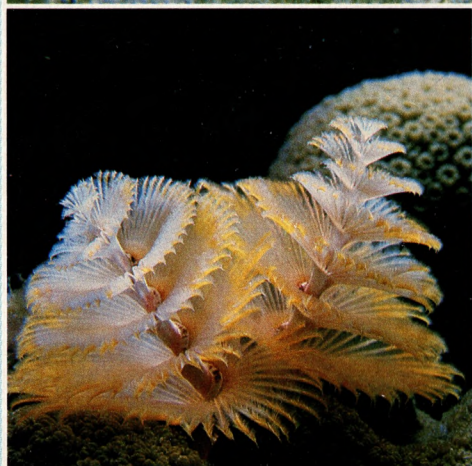


STEVE LUCAS PHOTO



BONAIRE

...wonderland of undersea creatures and fish

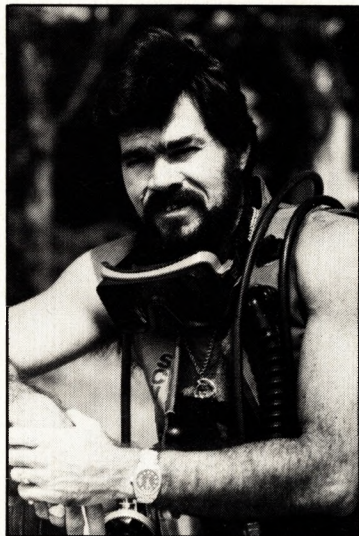


Bonaire's reefs are distinctive, rich with color and the antics of fish make them come alive. Top: Yellowtail snappers are the fish most often seen off Bonaire and are easily tamed through handfeeding. Above: Of the many species of eel off Bonaire, the black and white spotted moray is the most abundant. Some dive sites have six or seven of these attractive animals in residence. Left: Delicate Christmas tree worms are found in abundance in Bonaire waters and make excellent macro subjects.

I heard them in the middle of the night, their sounds were immediately recognizable—unexpected, but unmistakable. A pair of this arid, lower Caribbean island's wild critters had come to town for a visit.

We had already spent almost a week exploring this island's underwater world, but on this, our third visit to Bonaire, we had learned there were a lot of sights and animals to see other than those that live on its incredibly rich ocean reefs. So declared by local license plates, Bonaire really is a "divers paradise." With the island itself breaking the force of the perpetual wind, the water to its west is almost always flat. Thick corals grow right up to the sand and come as close as the Caribbean gets to the exotic reefs found in the South Pacific and Indian Ocean.

"Look above the Plimsoll mark," one of the island's more notorious adventurers had insisted when he met us at the airport. "Everyone knows about our diving. It ain't the best in the Caribbean," he said to our startled surprise, "but who's got any better?" he grinned. "A lot of folks come here and don't ever look at anything above the waterline," he continued, referring to the Plimsoll markings on a ship's side, which indicate the limit to which the vessel can be safely loaded. "Some have spent months here and go home having seen almost nothin'. I've been here 24 years and I'm just now seeing it." So we decided to spend half our



"...All of the employees we came in contact with at the Flamingo Beach Hotel were very friendly, helpful and hospitable ranging from the front desk personnel, luggage carriers, maids, dive shop personnel, waiters, cooks, maitre d's at both restaurants, bartenders and casino personnel. And a special thanks to Photo Bonaire pros Jerry and Suzi for helping with troublesome equipment.

"The operation is still as efficient as it was three years ago with even more growth and improvement. And the new dive boats really were outstanding.

"The food, diving, accommodations and weather were superb. Can't wait for another return visit, especially to win some more money at the casino. Anyone even thinking of going to Bonaire is recommended to stay at the Flamingo Beach."

Jeff Nakamura, SSI & PADI Instructor
Silver Springs, Florida

NEED WE SAY MORE

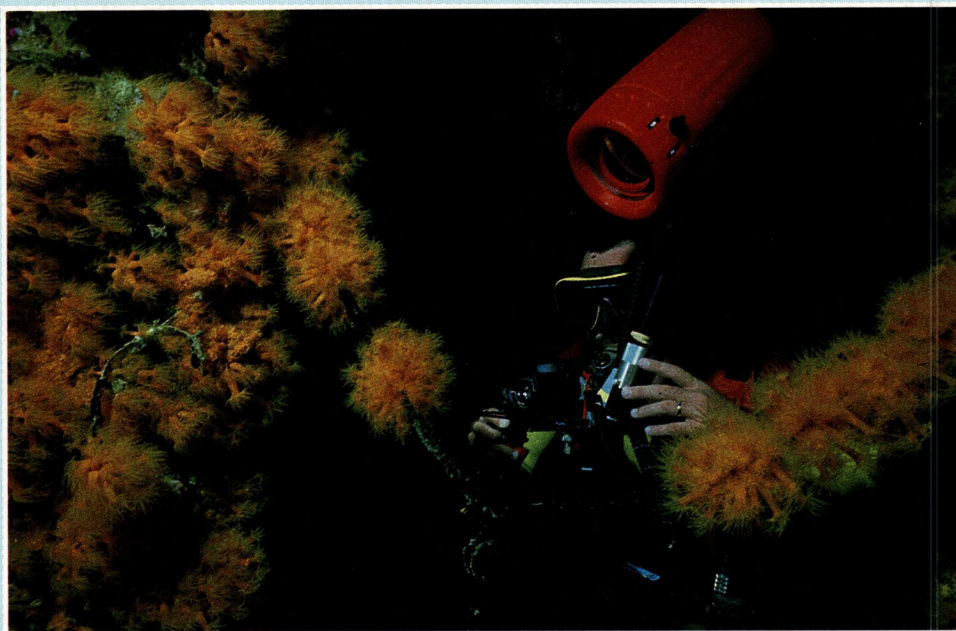
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Peter Hughes Diving



Flowering colonies of *Tubastrea* coral are prevalent at Town Pier and several shallow areas around Klein Bonaire. These brilliant yellow animals often fully extend their polyps or "blossom" only at night or in shaded crevices during the day. In doing so, they feed on plankton carried in the ocean currents. Divers participating in night time excursions off Bonaire are often rewarded with glimpses of rare orange ball anemones and bright orange brittlestars. Many divers utilize macro tubes and framers or close-up lenses to photograph these creatures.



ALM flies direct to Bonaire from the U.S. on weekends and reaches Aruba and Curacao on weekdays. From Aruba or Curacao, you take an ABC Commuter Airlines plane to Bonaire.



photos/Steve Lucas

BONAIRE

time diving and the rest seeing Bonaire—above the Plimsoll mark—with a Budget rental car.

On this night a part of topside Bonaire had come to see us. Just outside, a couple of real, live, wild burros were serenading. Having spent a lot of time already looking at the Arizona-like cactus covered terrain, I almost let myself believe I had dreamed them into existence. But this was one noisy dream!

As we traversed the island I had often asked where these fellows got drinking water. Not particularly difficult to spot on the road that turns east toward Lac Bay, just south of the airport, small herds had frequently crossed the road in front of us and trotted across craggy ironshore rocks that would have cut anything but their very tough hoofs.

Practically every pond is brackish and occupied by vibrant pink flamingos. The gorgeous, but gangly birds wade about on stilt-like legs searching—with one eye—for the food that gives them their color. They use the other eye to make sure no one gets close enough for a good photograph. But, the water where the flamingos find food is far too salty to drink. Almost all of Bonaire's fresh water is supplied from a giant desalination plant. But where do the flamingos, parrots, lizards and burros get water? Ah! A mystery to solve.

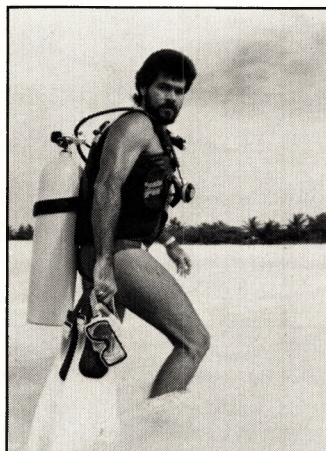
With our plan of island discovery laid out, every morning was set aside for diving. Most of the dive operations use the same system. The afternoon before you plan to dive you go to the dive shop, see where the boats are heading the following day, place your name or assigned number on the blackboard beneath the name of your chosen destination and head for your favorite watering hole. The next morning you present yourself at your preselected boat with your cameras and

TRAVEL DATA

Location	—1,200 miles south of Miami 50 miles north of Venezuela
Size	—24 miles long, 3 to 7 miles wide
Population	—10,000
Languages	—English, Papiamentu, Dutch, Spanish
Currency	—Guilders or U.S. dollars
Electricity	—127 volts AC/50 cycles
Airfield	—8,100 foot jet port
Entry Requirements	—U.S. citizens; passport, birth certificate or voter's card.
Tourist Info	—Mallory Factor 275 7th Avenue New York, NY 10001 (212) 242-0000

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thru Dec. 19, 1986

From \$799 for 8 day/7 night package

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NOV. 1—15 and NOV. 29—DEC. 19, 1986



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Peter Hughes Diving



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BONAIRE

personal gear and a tank will be waiting. The locals say its "hassle free," I wouldn't argue.

The boats permit you to get to sites that would otherwise be difficult or impossible to see. But you could spend a month here and never have to set foot on a boat. In the earliest days of Bonaire's diving, there were no such thing as dive boats. They just weren't considered necessary.

Offshore, literally anywhere just offshore, beds of corals grow right up to the surface. To the leeward south of the island, getting to the beach is easy. But on the upper arm of this boomerang shaped piece of land 50 miles north of Venezuela, finding a beach entry can be a bit trickier. Sometimes there are no beaches at all. When you do find one it may be 50 feet down a cliff. At those many places where beach access is simple, the reefs are waiting anytime of the day. In fact, if you or your friends are more inclined toward mask and fins than scuba, you don't have to ever slip a tank on your back to get a close-up look.

The reefs begin their slope almost immediately. In some places the seafloor drops away barely 50 feet from shore. The slope is often steep, but not steep enough to be called a wall. One hundred feet down, it strikes a sandy terrace; an underwater beach. Here, cities of reclusive garden eels are often found swaying like silvery sea grass. They slowly retreat, inch by inch, into their sandy homes as you infringe too much on their privacy. A bit farther, the slope begins to plunge again. It drops almost 700 feet before rising again to form flat Klein (little) Bonaire.

Once you've been to Bonaire, it becomes very easy to recognize underwater photos taken here. The island's reefs are very distinctive and seem to have been decorated by an underwater designer who never made it to any other part of the Caribbean. They are rich with color, thick with corals and have the finest collection of purple tube sponges in the Caribbean.

Many reefs actually break the surface, while at others, stony brain corals grow just below, surrounded by bright orange cup corals. A few feet away, elkhorn corals extend their polyps. As the slope begins, the plate-like corals take over. Often, they are so thick you can swim 100 yards and not find a sand break.

Less than 100 feet from shore on Klein Bonaire the water has already reached a depth of 70 feet. The sponges are thick and colored red, orange and green. Purple tubes, often four and five feet tall, extend toward the surface looking like regal aquatic instruments. Black coral trees



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and tall, feathery, gorgonian whips wave in the normally gentle current. Fluorescent orange elephant ear sponges, six to eight feet high, appear to be made of plastic. And, in the midst of everything else, a strange pale green coral looks and feels like leather.

There are not hordes of fish, rather just enough to make the reefs come alive. Most of the fish are tame, having been handfed by thousands of divers. Moray and gold spotted snake eels come out of hiding in broad daylight, sometimes swimming right out to give you an inspection. Tiger and marbled groupers come up to your mask to ask if you have food. Purple and yellow Spanish hogfish dart through your photo composition and tiny orange frogfish hide on top of sponges that are so similar in color you will probably swim by and not see them most of the time.

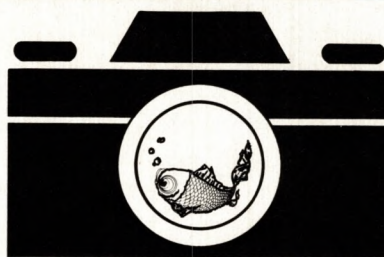
In fact, if there are two animal species on Bonaire's reefs that will bring divers to life, they are the frogfish and the seahorses. Mated pairs of orange, yellow, brown and black spotted seahorses can be found on many dive sites. At night, they can always be found clinging to the piling growth of one of the island's favorite night sites, the Town Pier.

Determined to explore both halves of the island, we left the seahorses and frogfish every afternoon in order to explore the flats to the south and the hills to the north and west. Following the one-way, scenic coastal route north and west past all the hotels and leaving the central town of Kralendijk (kra'-lin-dike, trill the "r") heading in the general direction of Rincon, one of Bonaire's several dozen beach dive sites, **Thousand Steps**, jumped out and got in our way.

Here it's really pretty easy to get to the beach. All you have to do is pick up all your gear and climb down 100 or so steps carved into the otherwise sheer cliff face. The corals come directly to the beach and with polarized sunglasses you can see the fish swimming between their outstretched branches from the cliff's top 100 feet above. So why do they call the place Thousand Steps? Why not Hundred Steps? Wait until you try to get back to the top with a scuba tank on your back: You'll know!

A little farther down the road, look close. Off to the right a high, natural stone bridge arch is almost hidden against the bluff. You can easily climb up over it while listening to the high shrilled screams of the yellow cheeked green Bonairian parakeets that cling to almost every cactus.

A few miles farther, the road appears to end its coastal tour and turns inland toward Lake Goto Meer and then to Rincon. If you continue past it, right up to the entrance of the oil storage facility (impossible to miss), then turn right, you can continue on a graded road for several more miles. It curves up and over the hills, around the plant and then returns to



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BONAIRE

the shore. At the end is a fishing village. Look to your right. Flamingos will usually be seen wading in the salt ponds. With care you can sneak down behind some tall bushes to get a good close-up photo.

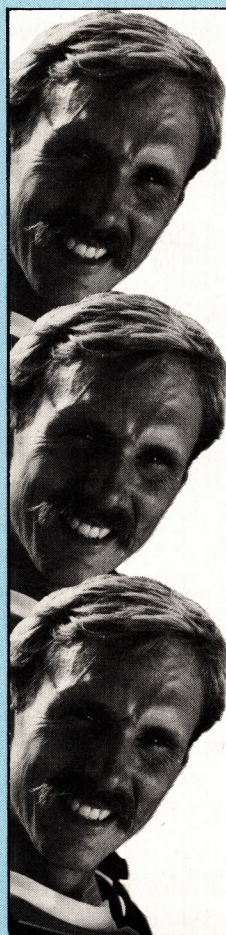
On the way back, keep a sharp eye out between the trees for a road that turns to the sea. At its end is one of the most seductive little beaches on the island: **Nu-kove**. Two small semicircular beaches, only 20 or 30 feet wide, are carved out of the ironshore. They are less than 100 feet long and a 15 foot ledge serves as their backdrop, keeping them hidden from the road. The snorkeling around the brain and elkhorn corals is fun. Combined with the natural scenery, this spot is one of the best honeymooner's picnic beaches on the island. Please be careful, you're not the only one who's reading this.

Back on the main road, be prepared for a total change of scenery. You'll wind up past tall hardwoods and a small grove of banana trees. At the lookout point over salty Lake Goto Meer you can see a small island. It is always surrounded by flamingos. In the background, jagged hills rise

SDM'S DINING GUIDE TO BONAIRE

RESTAURANT	PHONE	LOCATION	HOURS	CLOSED	CREDIT CARDS
Beefeater Restaurant	8081	Kralendijk	6:45 pm-11:00 pm	Tuesday	AE
Bistro des Amis	8003	Kralendijk	6:30 pm-11:00 pm	Sunday	AE,MC,V
Calabas Terrace	8285	Flamingo Beach Hotel	7:30 am-10:30 am 12:00 pm- 2:30 pm 6:30 pm-10:00 pm	none	AE,MC
Captain Don's Quarter Deck	8290	Habitat	7:30 am-10:00 pm 12:00 pm- 1:30 pm 7:30 pm-10:00 pm	Thursday night	MC,V
Chibi Chibi	8285	Flamingo Beach Hotel	6:30 pm-10:00 pm	none	AE,MC,V
China Garden Restaurant	8480	Kralendijk	11:30 am-10:00 pm	Tuesday	AE,MC,V
Den Laman Bar & Restaurant	8955	North of Bonaire Beach Hotel	6:00 pm-11:00 pm	Tuesday	AE,V
Great China	8886	Kralendijk	11:30 am-10:00 pm	Monday	MC,V
Mona Lisa Restaurant	8308	Kralendijk	9:00 am-11:00 pm	Tuesday	AE,MC,V
Neptune Room	8448	Bonaire Beach Hotel	7:00 am-10:30 am 12:00 pm- 3:00 pm 7:00 pm-10:30 pm	none	AE,MC,V
Rendez-Vous Restaurant	8454	Kralendijk	6:00 pm-11:00 pm	Tuesday	AE
Tropical Burgers	8936	Kralendijk	8:00 am-11:00 pm	none	none
Zeezicht Bar & Restaurant	8434	Kralendijk	8:30 am-11:00 pm	none	AE,MC,V

Note: AE=American Express, MC=MasterCard, V=Visa



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Bruce Bowker's
CARIB INN

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in such a fashion as to present the illusion you are on a very mountainous island.

Along the road is another feature unique to Bonaire: The fences are made of cactus. With three and four foot pieces simply chopped off, leaned together and wired, they make a formidable barrier. Even though the cut pieces are not planted, they continue to live.

At the road's end, Rincon is one of the most scenic little villages in the Caribbean. In the late afternoon sunlight the pastel yellows of the church and houses seem to glow. At the bottom of the hill you'll find a junction where you can head west toward the national park, or east back to Kralendijk. But before you head anywhere you must take the traditional Rincon break.

Turn right and go on until the road ends. You will be almost in front of Bonaire's famous Amstel Bar. Get yourself something cold to drink here, or better yet, take another right, go up the hill a short distance, take the downhill gravel side of the Y and go a few meters until you end up in what appears to be a yard. Go to the window of the building to your left and order a cup of exotic ice cream—pistachio with real nuts, pineapple with chunks of fruit or peanut with whole peanuts. Our favorite? Sour sap, a purely Caribbean island delight.

Once you've finished your break, and assuming it's still early in the day, head west. At the far end of the road you'll find the 13,000 plus acre Washington/Slagbaai National Park. There is a minimal fee per person for touring and it closes promptly at 5:00 pm. Don't be surprised if the rangers begin to move you toward the gate a full hour ahead of that time. The park's exploration really deserves a picnic lunch and a full day, but if you start by 2:00 pm you can see much of it.

Two routes take you on either a 15 or 22 mile journey through the hills. If you plan to get off the main road you'd best arrange for a Jeep-type vehicle. Don't be surprised if four foot long iguanas make their way across the road in front of you.

The area is a sanctuary for the many types of birds found on the island and the rare Bonarian parrot and smaller parakeets screech from sunup to sundown. The terrain is rugged and filled with caves. Along the coastal route you can find secluded snorkeling beaches such as **Playa Funchi**. At **Playa Chikitu** the strong waves are normally high enough for some good body surfing. Stay in the middle and watch out for the strong undertow at the sides.

On the way back from Rincon continue left and take the northern coastal road. Where possible get close to the water. You are now on the windward side of the island. The constant, year-round trade wind creates a spectacular show when it forces the rough water to crash against the rugged ironshore. Watch for the sign that indicates the Indian markings. At the end of the road, opposite the point where

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Peter Hughes

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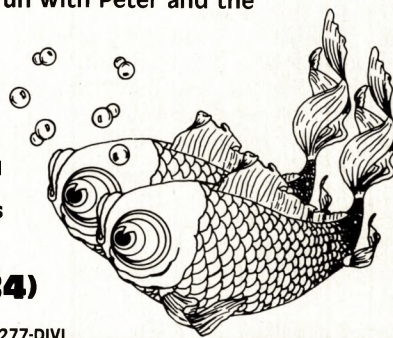
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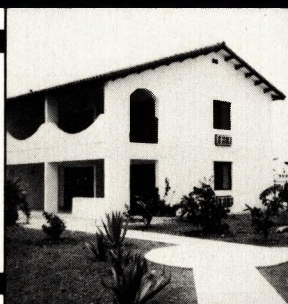


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BONAIRE

the ocean has carved a deep gouge into the island's face, you will find an overhanging cliff with large stalactites and stalagmites. At the western end of the cliff are the undeciphered writings of some of Bonaire's earliest Indian inhabitants.

As you return to Kralendijk be prepared for a bit of culture shock. Bonaire, although it has its own government, is loyal to the Dutch and is part of the Netherlands Antilles along with neighboring Curacao. It has a very well educated population and you will probably hear locals speaking three or four languages. In addition to their own Papiamentu—a mixture of Dutch, Spanish and Portuguese—almost everyone speaks fluent Dutch, Spanish and English.

Restaurants with cuisines ranging from seafood to exotic can be found in and around Kralendijk's compact business district. North of the Bonaire Beach Hotel sample the seafood and enjoy the 9,000 gallon saltwater aquarium at Den Laman Aquarium Restaurant. In town, the Bistro des Amis serves escargot, French onion soup and fine wines, while the Beefeater broils sumptuous continental steaks and seafood. The Zeezicht faces the town pier and prepares some of the best fresh conch on the island. At the China Garden or Great China choose from Oriental menus or sample the cuisine at the Mona Lisa or Rendez-Vous. If you're in town to shop, take a look at Littman Jewelry's custom diver trinkets or nearby T-shirt specialty shop.

For an easy afternoon tour you can combine with beach diving, take the road south past the airport. If you go all the way to the point you'll find yourself at the Willemstoren lighthouse, built in 1837. Continue back up the windward side to **Sorobon Beach** and **Boca Cai** at Lac Bay. These are two of the most beautiful beaches on the island and piles of conch shells are stacked up on the sand.

Long before you find the lighthouse, just a few miles down the ocean drive from the airport, a white mountain jumps into view and compels you to stop. Tons and tons of freshly dried sea salts are piled up opposite the salt pier. Other than tourism, salt production is one of Bonaire's two main industries. Large "pans" contain shallow ponds of evaporating seawater. Many have a pink hue owing to the organisms that live in the high saline solution. If you look closely you may be able to spot some of the flamingos that nest around these pans and flats.

The pans were once worked totally by slave labor and the remains of the slaves' tiny huts still line the beach around one of several tall pyramid markers. They retain the colors given them by early salt

shippers. When told to pick up a cargo at the "red" marker, the captain of an old tall masted ship would know exactly where to anchor.

There are many excellent dive and snorkel spots, just off the road, including the wreck of the 230 foot freighter, **Hilma Hooker**. She was carrying some 25,000 pounds of marijuana in secret compartments and her owners never came forward to claim her. The vessel sank in 90 feet of water. You can read the story of her last days in the August 1986 SDM.

Arranging accommodations on Bonaire is easy, regardless of your travel budget or the size of your family or group. The options available range from simple economy rooms to excellent hotels, apartments, houses or deluxe villas.

The largest dive operator on the island is DIVE BONAIRE, at the FLAMINGO BEACH HOTEL. Having earned the reputation of being one of the most efficient operations ever conceived, this flagship Peter Hughes dive facility can handle up to several hundred people without anyone ever feeling crowded.

Two Dive Bonaire operations are at either end of the Flamingo Beach resort property. Together, Dive Bonaire and Dive Bonaire II have 30 staff members. Co-managed by dive operations manager Harry Ward, assistant manager Dana Vied and Mike Conkel, Peter Hughes' fast, custom designed dive boats pull up to the docks on a staggered schedule. Once you've witnessed the smoothness with which this is executed you will find

it hard to believe there are several dozen guests staying at the Flamingo.

Each of the nine boats visits a different site and more than 40 sites are available to dive guests.

The boats depart between 9-9:30 am and 2-2:30 pm every day. There is unlimited shore diving from 8:30 am to 10:30 pm. Night boat dives are offered six evenings a week as well.

Built on the water, the hotel's Spanish decor is lushly landscaped around many small walkways. An efficient, well planned 148 room resort, it has two restaurants, the only barefoot casino in the islands, a large whirlpool tub, pool, boutique, conference room and one of the best equipped underwater photo centers to be found anywhere. A short walk from anywhere to wherever you want to be, the facility is relatively compact, yet spacious. The restaurants, the Calabas and Chibi Chibi, give you a choice in menus. They, and the Flamingo's Nest bar, are next to the sea. A second watering spot, the Player's Bar, is next to the casino.

A new vacation concept for Bonaire, the CLUB FLAMINGO, has recently been added to the northern end of the property. It is a timeshare facility and owners have the availability of all the hotel's amenities and diving at a guaranteed, prepaid room rate for the life of their timeshare contract. Ownership is reasonable and represents a fantastic value and savings for those who return regularly.

The new and larger facilities of PHOTO BONAIRE, Dive Bonaire's underwater



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For nearly 25 yrs. Cap'n Don has pioneered diving and reef preservation in Bonaire. Since 1976 he has developed Habitat into a true divers' resort. Now join him for the beginning of a new era in Diving Freedom.

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Habitat U.S.A.

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(802) 496-5067

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

BONAIRE

photography center, are now between the main hotel entrance and the Calabas restaurant. The expanded pro underwater photography shop has a large classroom and is managed by well known underwater photographers Jerry Schnabel and Suzi Swygert. Frequently photographed, Suzi is one of the best underwater models around.

You can sign up to have a video made of your underwater explorations, take an afternoon macro photo course or obtain PADI or NAUI underwater photo certification. Complete underwater camera rental, supplies and overnight E-6 type film processing are available in one of the cleanest, best equipped photo labs in the Caribbean. To help you learn from your successes and mistakes, your film is returned sleeved in one long unmounted strip. Sitting at any of the numerous light tables in the main store or classroom you can check frame to frame for composition and exposure techniques while one of the store's pros offers advice and assistance. You can then mount them all or just the ones you want to keep.

Just a few yards south of the Flamingo is Bruce Bowker's CARIB INN. This is a smaller, less structured resort and Bowker likes to give his dive guests very personal attention. It is built around a courtyard pool. Bowker recently expanded the property to a total of ten rooms and apartments. Each has its own refrigerator and some are complete with living room, kitchen and separate bedrooms. A few have an ocean view and one seaside, two bedroom apartment is large enough to easily accommodate six. The inn does not have a restaurant. Instead, guests prepare their own meals or walk to any of the better restaurants in Kralendijk, less than ten minutes away.

With two new and very fast Privateer outboard boats, limited to a maximum of ten divers, Carib Inn is a fully equipped dive operation including a small retail facility. The shop offers NAUI and PADI instruction, open water check-outs and specialty courses taught by Jim Surber.

An American expatriot, Bowker has been on Bonaire almost 14 years and is respected as one of the most knowledgeable resort operators and dive guides on the island.

Bowker takes his personal guests to experience some of Bonaire's lushest spots. Every time we return to the island, he knows we'll want to go to **Sponges** at the eastern edge of Klein Bonaire. It is an exclusively Carib Inn dive site and no one else will risk the difficult and possibly treacherous anchorage. Any boat larger than either of his outboards would prob-

ably end up on the reef. A very experienced skipper, Bowker carefully puts his groups right up against the edge of the drop-off.

To the north of Kralendijk is the other of the island's two major resort properties, BONAIRE BEACH HOTEL. Wide, sandy beaches are not common on the island, so if that is one of your major prerequisites you'd better consider staying here. Built on Playa Leche, the resort is still undergoing a complete, long term renovation program. Major portions have been completed. In addition to a large thatched roof beach hut and bar, the entire property is being relandscaped.

The hotel is spread over a large amount of space that gives guests plenty of room to find a secluded spot. The family resort hotel is perfect for children. With lighted tennis courts, sailboarding, Sunfish sailboats, sunset cruises and a miniature golf course, there are plenty of non-diving activities for everyone.

With the indoor Neptune and the outdoor Beach Hut restaurants, as well as the Black Coral Casino, the evening entertainment is casual and pleasant. On Wednesday and Sunday evenings the casino tempts you to try your luck by giving away free chips to everyone who dines in the Neptune. Outdoor buffets are usually set on several evenings and live entertainment is scheduled on at least one night during your stay.

Owned by Bonarian Eddie Statia and American Al Catalfumo, the hotel's dive shop, BONAIRE SCUBA CENTER, is a complete dive operation with several uncrowded boats leaving the dock twice a day. Night dives are also frequently scheduled. The underwater photography center can provide overnight E-6 film processing, instruction, a strobe recharge station and rentals including point-and-shoot underwater cameras and Nikonos systems.

On an unlimited dive package you can grab a tank and go in the water almost anytime. Beach diving and snorkeling is great right at the front porch of the dive shop. **Front Porch** reef drops to a depth of more than 90 feet just yards from the dock. At 70 feet an old wreck is becoming a living reef and makes a good photo prop. Diving on this reef is best to the north side. Along its drop you can find dense growths of corals and sponges.

One special Bonaire Scuba Center trip you must plan to take is the **Truck Dive**. No, you're not going to dive on a sunken pick-up truck. You're going to dive from a truck! It's sort of like a Bonairian version of a diver's hay ride. Since all the main island's reefs can be reached from shore it's often faster and easier to get there via land instead of sea.

North of the Bonaire Beach Hotel is one of the island's best known, uh, "resorts." Be careful what you call the place when a gray bearded guy—wearing scratched glasses, shorts, sandals, any

of a dozen floppy hats with hero pins all over them and a white shirt with a dive flag on the sleeve and Manila cards hanging out of his pocket—is around. Cap'n Don doesn't like his HABITAT to be called a "resort," and he absolutely hates the word "hotel." "It's a dive shop with rooms," he says firmly. Don't argue.

An American expatriate of 24 years, Captain Don Stewart is one of those guys who can truly be called a character. Such a character is he that he has been featured in dozens of magazine articles and in the comic strip, Dondi, on the fictional island of Bonaire. He is so coarse on the outside he will try to make you believe you could skin him and sell the hide for sandpaper. On the inside is a fellow with a lot of love for the ocean, his island and deep sentiment for all his friends.

BONAIRE DIVE RESORTS AND BEACH HOTELS

Bonaire Scuba Center
Bonaire Beach Hotel
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8448
U.S. Booking Office:
Bonaire Tours
P.O. Box 775
Morgan, NJ 08879
(800) 526-2370
(201) 566-8866 - NJ

Dive Bonaire
Flamingo Beach Hotel
Kralendijk
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8285
U.S. Booking Office:
Flamingo Beach Hotel
520 West State Street
Ithaca, NY 14850
(800) 847-7198
(800) 252-6323 - NY

Captain Don's Habitat
Captain Don's Hamlet
P.O. Box 88
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8290
U.S. Booking Office:
Habitat
P.O. Box 237
Waitsfield, VT 05673
(802) 496-5067

Sorobon Beach Resort
P.O. Box 14
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8080

Carib Inn
P.O. Box 68
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8819

Sunset Inn/
Poseidon Nemrod Club
P.O. Box 333
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8291
011-599-7-8761

BONAIRE GUEST COTTAGES AND APARTMENTS

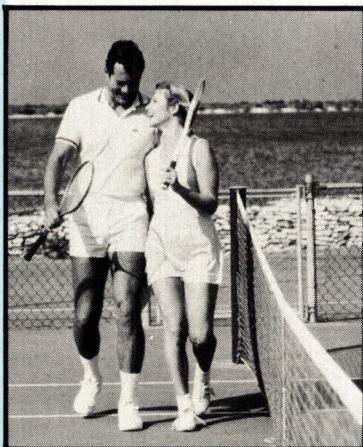
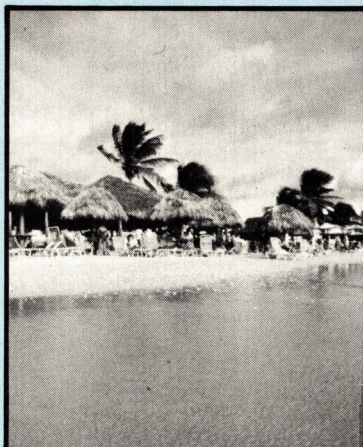
Bachelor Beach Apartments
Kralendijk
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8734
U.S. Booking Office:
Bachelor Beach Apartments
4622 Charleston Terrace NW
Washington, D.C. 20007
Phone: (202) 338-0690

Bonaire Sunset Villas
P.O. Box 115
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8291

Buddy's Dive Resort
P.O. Box 231
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8647
U.S. Agent (215) 623-1117

Bonaire Beach Bungalows
P.O. Box 155
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8581
U.S. Booking Office:
Bonaire Beach Bungalows
P.O. Box 264
Waverly, PA 18471
Phone: (717) 586-9230

Sand Dollar Beach Club
(Condominium)
P.O. Box 175
Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles
Phone: 011-599-7-8738
U.S. Booking Agent:
Sand Dollar
50 Georgetown Road
Bordentown, NJ 08050
(609) 298-3844



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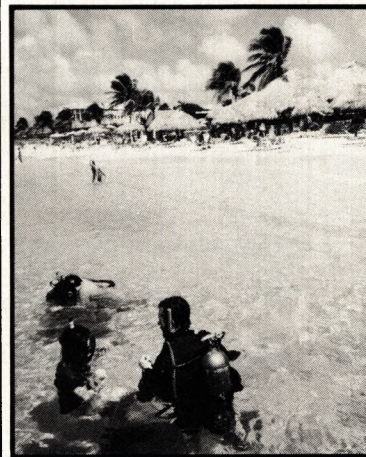
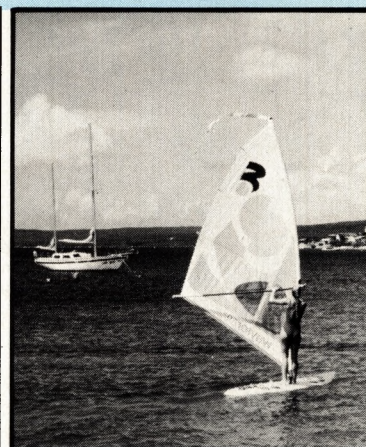
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BONAIRE

His guests really do become his friends and keep coming back year after year. In addition to the several dozen cottages at the Habitat, the Cap'n and his business manager Morey Ruza are now building almost 30 villas on the adjacent property. Called HAMLET and being sold to repeat visitors, these will become the nucleus for a village that will eventually include shops, recreational facilities and a recirculating river of seawater that will provide a home to many exotic forms of sealife.

The Habitat is for people who do not like regimentation. Here, you dive when you please, 24 hours a day. Special arrangements are never necessary to make a 3:00 am dive. Just walk down to the

dive shop, grab a tank and jump in. For the more conventional, the dive boat does have a schedule and leaves every morning and afternoon.

There is a very complete underwater photo center where you can rent a camera, get your E-6 type film processed, have an underwater video tape made of your vacation or take a personalized underwater photo course.

Habitat is also the primary base for Dee Scarr's TOUCH THE SEA. Dee has spent years studying the ocean's creatures and has developed an uncanny ability to understand and communicate with them. Taking small groups on escorted tours, she shows you how to make friends with the residents of the reef.

Private ownership of vacation property has just begun to rise in popularity on the island. In addition to those available at Habitat, SAND DOLLAR BEACH CLUB, a condominium complex, is now under construction between the Bonaire Beach Club and Cap'n Don's. With 14 units already completed and 20 to be ready by December 15, this luxury club will offer the options of ownership, property management and rentals.

Beautifully furnished one, two and three bedroom units are available with full kitchen facilities.

A full dive shop is scheduled to open December 15 and a complete water-sports operation with swimming pool, tennis court, marina and beach hut bar will follow.

For family vacationers who want more space and privacy there are a number of private villas on the island for rent. Across from Playa Leche beach, just opposite Bonaire Beach Club, BUDDY'S DIVE RESORT has its own small retail dive shop with complete instruction, equipment rental and several outboard boats for small groups.

Owned by Yvonne and Joop Rauwers, the air-conditioned one and two bedroom efficiency apartments of CARABELA BUNGALOWS are fully furnished. While not directly on the water, Buddy's has its boats just across the street. With the ability to handle up to 20 divers maximum, the boats are never crowded. Ten persons is always the maximum number per trip. Guided by marine biologist/dive instructor Hans van Dam from Holland, dive departures are made from the Yacht Club adjacent to Playa Leche.

In Kralendijk, just south of the Town Pier, the POSEIDON NEMROD CLUB BONAIRE operates a dive shop. Dive packages, equipment rental, air fills, resort courses, Sunfish sailing, water skiing and water taxi service to Klein Bonaire for sightseeing and snorkeling are available. The club is an affiliate of the European organization of the same name.

Between the Poseidon Nemrod Club and the Flamingo Beach Hotel is the BONAIRE SUNSET INN. A small motel, it is just across the street from good snorkeling. Only a short walk from the town's

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main shopping district, the inn has six double bedrooms, of which two have a kitchenette. Each has its own refrigerator. The building's lobby has fully equipped kitchens and laundry facilities are available to all guests. Diving packages can be arranged through Poseidon Nemrod or Dive Bonaire.

Operated by the same management as Sunset Inn, BONAIRE SUNSET VILLAS has several villas and houses around the island. South of the airport, at the end of what is known locally as bungalow row, one of the villas is set directly on the ocean. Its curved archways give a nice feeling of space. Well landscaped beds of pastel flowers are planted around the palms. One and three bedroom apartments are available for rental by the day, week or month.

In addition to these oceanside properties, houses ranging from two to five bedrooms with as many as four baths are also available. All are fully furnished and some even have television and VCRs.

Also south of the airport, BACHELOR'S BEACH APARTMENTS is a Spanish style villa with large sundecks, cactus garden and private pier. It is a very nice alternative to the hotels: You have your own apartment with the availability of diving, swimming and other activities at your leisure. Fully furnished one or two bedroom units can comfortably accommodate four to six persons. Each has a living room, bath and kitchen.

Diving is as close as the pier out front, and there is a convenient tank for rinsing gear, or you can arrange a package through any dive facility on the island.

A little farther south is BONAIRE BEACH BUNGALOWS. Directly on the shore, it has two docks that extend into the ocean from the wide palm covered

GENERAL INFORMATION

Bonaire is 1,200 miles south of Miami, 50 miles north of Venezuela. The island is 24 miles long and averages from three to seven miles wide, or 112 square miles. The population is 10,000 with English freely spoken along with Papiamentu, Dutch and Spanish.

Currency is the NAf guilder. U.S. dollars are freely accepted by merchants and hotels and major credit cards are normally welcome.

A valid passport is required for entry for U.S. and Canadian citizens as well as a continuing or return air ticket.

Dress is usually casual day or night. Most restaurants do not object to informal dress. Air temperatures are in the moderate to high range and the sun's rays will burn you quickly. Be prepared with adequate lotions and sunblock preparations. Average rainfall is less than 20 inches.

Car rentals are available from Budget, Avis, ABC Car Rental, Erkar Car Rental and through several private resorts.

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Below are examples of the numerous packages available thru your Travel Agent or Dive Shop.

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4/8/86-12/14/86

	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE	QUAD
Non-Diver	\$515	\$394	\$368	\$354
6 Dive	677	556	530	516
11 Dive	733	612	586	572

Includes: 7 nights standard accommodations • Welcome Cocktail & Mgr. Cocktail Party • Breakfast & dinner daily • Use of tennis courts • Casino Chip

Diving: 6 days of guided boat dives

CURACAO:

4/5/86-12/19/86

	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE	QUAD
Non-Diver	\$489	\$337	\$283	\$256
6 Dive	621	469	415	388
10 Dive	687	535	481	454
Unlimited Dive	737	585	530	504

Includes: 7 nights standard accommodations • Welcome Cocktail • Breakfast daily • Bonbini discount book • Daytime tennis • \$10 in casino coupons • T-Shirt

Diving: 6 days of guided boat dives • Unlim. Dive Pkg.—1 boat night dive

BONAIRE/CURACAO COMBO:

4/5/86-12/19/86

	SINGLE	DOUBLE	TRIPLE	QUAD
Non-Diver	\$1,117	\$ 804	\$ 710	\$662
12 Dive Package	1,425	1,112	1,018	870

Includes: 7 nights Bonaire • 7 nights Curacao • Welcome cocktails at both hotels • Breakfast & dinner daily in Bonaire • Breakfast daily in Curacao • Unlimited use of Curacao Seaquarium • Use of tennis courts

Curacao Bonbini Discount Book

Diving: 12 days of guided boat dives • 12 dive pkg. includes 1 night boat dive • Unlim. dives in Bonaire include 6 night boat dives, in Curacao 1 night boat dive

All tour packages include roundtrip airport transfers, all service charges for included items, hotel taxes, use of tanks, backpack, weight & belt, unlimited airfills for offshore diving. Rates subject to change and may vary during peak holiday periods.

GROUP 4 SPECIAL: Sept.-Oct., 4 Person Min. Larger Groups: Call agent.

AIRFARES: ALM Antillean airlines offers several promotional fares. For further information contact your travel agent or dive shop.

AIRPORT TAX: There is a departure tax due upon leaving the Netherlands Antilles Islands.

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To receive brochure "ALM Takes You Diving in the Dutch Caribbean," write to Dive Brochure, P.O. Box 10338, Riviera Beach, FL 33404-1338.

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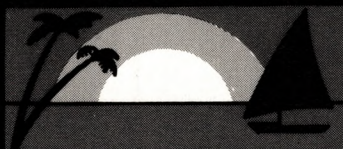
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For brochure and information, contact:

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patio sundeck. A barbecue pit is permanently built at the end of one of the docks and is available to guests at anytime. There are seven units, each with two bedrooms and a kitchen. As an option, all your food shopping can be done before your arrival. When you walk in the door, the refrigerator will be filled with the foods you have selected before leaving home.

Packages can be purchased with or without diving arrangements. If included, the diving is handled by Carib Inn with departures from its dock. Don't be surprised if you see your villa from the boat. Some of the best dive sites you will be visiting are right in front of your door. Excellent diving can be found just a short swim from the inn on **Roy's Choice**, a colorful U/W garden with plenty of tame fish.

One of the most unusual resort properties is on Lac Bay, five miles across the island. With high privacy fences surrounding the property, the SOROBON BEACH RESORT is a naturist community. Clothing and swimsuits are optional. The buildings are very basic and are cooled by the island's perpetual wind. Meals may be prepared in your room or bought at the small open air restaurant/bar.

With a beautiful private beach out front, the shallow protected bay can be waded for almost one-half mile offshore. Dive trips are available through the dive facilities of one of Bonaire's larger operations.

Getting to Bonaire is simple. ALM Antillean Airlines flies direct from Miami each weekend. During the week, ALM and other major carriers have connecting flights between Miami or New York to Bonaire's sister islands of Aruba and Curacao. Once in the ABC islands, the final trip to Bonaire is just a short hop via ABC Comuter Airlines.

Oh yes, I almost forgot to tell you where the burros get water! We asked and asked and asked. Finally we found the answer.

Bonaire is honeycombed with caves. Many are actually so large they deserve serious exploration by spelunkers. Just inside some, a thin layer of fresh water floats on top of the saltwater, held inside the island's porous rocks. The burros and other animals know just where to find the caves and their water supply.

There's a lot more to experience and learn about Bonaire. But you won't know the questions until you have enough first-hand experience to ask them. So go take a look at Bonaire above and below its Plimsoll mark. There's a lot you can discover on this little boomerang shaped desert island in the lower Dutch Caribbean. Discover it.

SDM travel

SECTION

There is a special appeal to the wild places of the diving world; those U/W frontiers where the fish are not known by first names and there is no waiting list to occupy a mooring buoy. These are places where it is possible to fantasize no diver has visited before, where no anchor has been dropped callously and no fin has kicked the fragile staghorn. Much of Belize offers this sort of allure. With a barrier reef extending over 185 miles and three major atolls with coral perimeters of at least 50 miles each, the diving potential is so immense and the serious diver interest so recent, that much of Belize lies yet undiscovered. I've found one of the most gratifying gateways to Belize discovery on a small coral islet at the southeast tip of the Turneffe Island atoll. Caye Bokel is home for the Turneffe Island Lodge and the point of departure for some of the most thrilling dive adventures in the Western Caribbean.

This is not intended as hyperbole. I find the combination of superior visibility, magnificent coral structures, good reef life and a high probability of pelagic encounters to be characteristic of the three atolls of Belize: Lighthouse Reef, Glover's Reef and the Turneffe Islands. The Turneffe Island Lodge is unique because, by virtue of its location, some of the best diving of



Photo/Dave Bennett

TURNEFFE ISLAND LODGE

A Belize Adventure Beyond The Barrier Reef

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY STEPHEN FRINK

the atoll is accessible within minutes of the dock. And, both Lighthouse and Glover's Reef are easy day trips for the resort's fast, comfortable, 38 foot dive boat.

The Turneffe Island Lodge dive adventure begins with a Belize City arrival. Belize City is one of the most accessible dive destinations, with daily

jet service from Miami, Houston and New Orleans. It serves as a staging area for the variety of diving programs offered along the barrier reef, in the atolls and from live-aboard dive vessels. Divers are transported from the airport to the Fort George Hotel docks to rendezvous with the dive boat and cruise to the Turneffe Islands. The *Grand Slam* is the queen of an extensive Turneffe Island Lodge fleet. A 38 foot Delta, she was custom designed with a plush interior, head, freshwater shower, electronics such as Loran C, VHF and stereo, and powered by twin Caterpillar 3208 diesels. Your dive bags and camera gear will be safely stowed below. Then, for the next hour or so, you will cruise by scenic cayes and watch as the water becomes ever more crystalline and blue until, finally, a sheltered mangrove lined channel leads to the docks at the lodge.

There, in bold letters emblazoned on the fuel tank, is the legend that perhaps best describes a week's vacation at the Turneffe Island Lodge: "We're not here for a long time, just a good time." That is the intent of owners Dave and Jill Bennett and that is what they deliver.

The Turneffe Island Lodge of six years ago is significantly different than today's incarnation. What was once a primitively austere fishing camp has



The dive boat *Grand Slam* (above) is fully outfitted for diver convenience. The *Sayonara* (right) was sunk to form an artificial reef. Left: Orange elephant ear sponge. Sponges are a Turneffe Islands signature.

travel

been nurtured into a comfortably efficient, friendly base for both sportfishing and sport diving. In their six years of ownership, the Bennetts have completely refurbished and rebuilt the lodge. They have also added a dive shop and ten new fishing skiffs with new motors, built a fleet of dive boats, added generators and back-up generators, improved the freshwater catchment system, brought in four dive compressors and staffed the resort for a high degree of personal service. From a guest roster of only 49 their first year of operation, the Bennetts now host more than 500 guests a year, many of whom are either repeat guests or word-of-mouth referrals.

The complex consists of eight rooms, six configured as doubles and two as quads. The island of Caye Bokel is 12 acres of sand, palm trees and mangroves with bonefish flats just offshore and superior diving within a five minute boat ride. There are two docks and a bar and dining area that is the center for evening entertainment on the island. Dining is family style, as befitting a small and intimate resort such as the Turneffe Island Lodge. The food is wholesome and quite outstanding. Dave and Jill are the convivial hosts and other members of the Bennett family are on hand to assist with the diving services.

The Turneffe Island Lodge started as a fishing camp and still has a very loyal following among sportfishermen, but the quality of diving so nearby made the evolution of diving services inevitable. In fact, the lodge now caters to more than 60 percent divers and many visiting anglers try diving during their vacation and end up hooked themselves. The fishing is primarily the more sporting catch and release variety with bonefish, permit and tarpon being the target species. There is also big game trolling only 300 yards from the front door for sailfish, marlin, king mackerel and wahoo, as well as very good bottom fishing. For divers, the variety of marine life is even more striking.

The 38 foot *Grand Slam* has been fitted for diver convenience with a walk-through transom, dive platform



Above: SKIN DIVER Editor-Publisher Bill Gleason photographs a vase sponge. Right: Jill and Dave Bennett, owners of the Turneffe Island Lodge.



with extended ladders, tank racks and a freshwater shower at the stern. An outboard powered 25 foot HydroSport and a 24 foot Boston Whaler complete the dive fleet.

Most of the week's diving will be done close to the resort and there is a tremendous wealth of sites. My personal favorite is technically known as the Elbow (Bokel means elbow in Dutch) but I've requested this same dive site so many times that the staff has taken to calling it Frink's Point. Here a wall slopes sharply from about 40 to 140 feet and the face is richly adorned with sponges, gorgonians in thick profusion, black coral and other forms of filter feeders. There are colorful concentrations of reef life along the wall and, in the surge channels perpendicular to the drop-off, species such as grouper, angelfish, porkfish and spadefish. However, it is the amazing daily parade of pelagic life that best defines the Elbow. Eagle rays in particular are absolutely dependable. I've never seen less than three on a single dive and to date the most ever observed in a single formation were the 24 sighted by SKIN DIVER editor/publisher Bill Gleason earlier this year. Permit and jacks school in huge numbers along certain points of the drop-off and in another area there is an unusually high concentration of turtles. Sharks are occasionally sighted (nurse, blacktip and bull) and in April and May the king mackerel migrate past the Elbow in huge schools of more than 100. Shark sightings are more frequent at that time as they track the migrations of the kings and

the annual spawning of the grouper is one phenomenon I hope one day to photo-document. I could dive the Elbow every day of my vacation and be satisfied, but then I'd miss too many other fine sites near Caye Bokel.

Triple Anchors is an especially fascinating site in only 45 to 50 feet on the leeward side of the island. As implied by the name, three old Spanish anchors lie coral-encrusted at this site. Two of them are nearly upright. The coral heads are high profile clusters of star and brain and the marine life both prolific and approachable. Also, in 45 feet of water, is the wreck of the *Sayonara*, a former Turneffe Island Lodge transport vessel ceremoniously sunk as an artificial reef after a productive past. The *Sayonara* is a wooden vessel steadily deteriorating on the bottom, but she has attracted some interesting marine life and the coral heads surrounding the wreck hold ample fascination for a dive. Within 100 yards of the wreck is an ever present school of permit.

The Turneffe Island Lodge has Loran coordinates on more than 50 intriguing dive sites within a 5-15 minute boat trip of the resort, but once or twice a week excursions are offered to Lighthouse Reef or the Glover's Reef atolls. Lighthouse is but one hour and 20 minutes away and Glover's is even closer, so each is a very realistic day trip. There is excellent diving at both atolls, but the land excursion to Half Moon Caye at Lighthouse Reef is a must. This is a filmmaker's fantasy of what a Caribbean island should look like.

(Continued on Page 87)

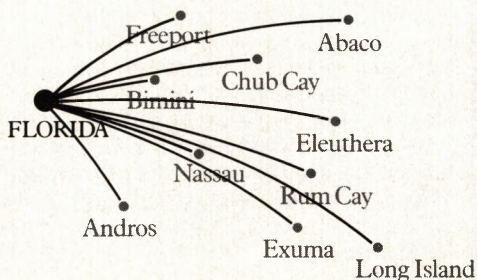
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TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY STEVEN G. ROSENBERG

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MONTEREY'S MAMMALS

The problem with doing a lot of diving in the Monterey area is that interactions with Monterey's marine mammals become so frequent that each new dive is likely to be more memorable than the last. Divers are apt to run into one of these bundles of personality almost anywhere along the Monterey coast. Within a short kick from the beach, divers can mingle with frolicking sea lions, observe the antics of a feeding otter or come face to face with a curious harbor seal. These three marine mammals are so numerous in Monterey that divers can almost be assured of getting close enough to see and even photograph them.

The California sea lion, the "trained seal" most widely seen in circuses and animal shows throughout the world, can almost always be found in large numbers near the end of the Monterey Breakwater. Here, numbers of the migratory sea lions cover the rock jetty, sunning themselves or playing aggressively in the shallows. The population is comprised of young males and females and older adult males. For ten months out of the year, divers can swim to the end of the breakwater and find all the excitement they can handle. From August through late May, as many as 200 sea lions make the breakwater their home.

During the months of June and July sea lions congregate near rookeries. These are special areas where the majority of females of breeding age stay during most of the year. The breeding grounds are mostly on the offshore islands from San Miguel Island—one of the Channel Islands—south into Mexico, on either rocky or sandy spots.



Many marine mammals make Monterey their home. Above: A sleek sea otter. First page: A harbor seal poses for the camera.

The barking of sea lions can be heard from quite a distance, both underwater and above. Even on days with excellent visibility, the barking is audible underwater long before the animals can be seen.

With their speed and maneuverability,

sea lions spend a minimum of time feeding. They enjoy freedom of movement and often spend much of their time teasing or playing with others. They appear to be very curious about divers and will often include them in their games of intimidation. Younger sea lions will spend much of their time practicing their games of aggression, which become part of their breeding behavior when battling for territory at the rookeries. Young sea lions have the unnerving habit of playing chicken with divers, veering off only at the last possible moment after snapping their teeth or blowing bubbles.

Although playful and usually harmless, sea lions have a mouthful of impressive teeth that could easily do a great deal of damage. Fortunately, the bull sea lions rarely do more than cruise slowly past divers, adding menacing stares for effect. Divers can enjoy the presence of these lively mammals underwater, but should be careful not to harass them or take unnecessary chances.

The swift and graceful movements of the sea lion result from front and rear limbs modified for increased mobility underwater. The hind limbs are flat and broad to give greater surface with which to push the water.

The skin of sea lions is quite thick and generally hairy with an underlying, thicker layer of fat. This double layer provides insulation that allows these animals to re-

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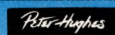
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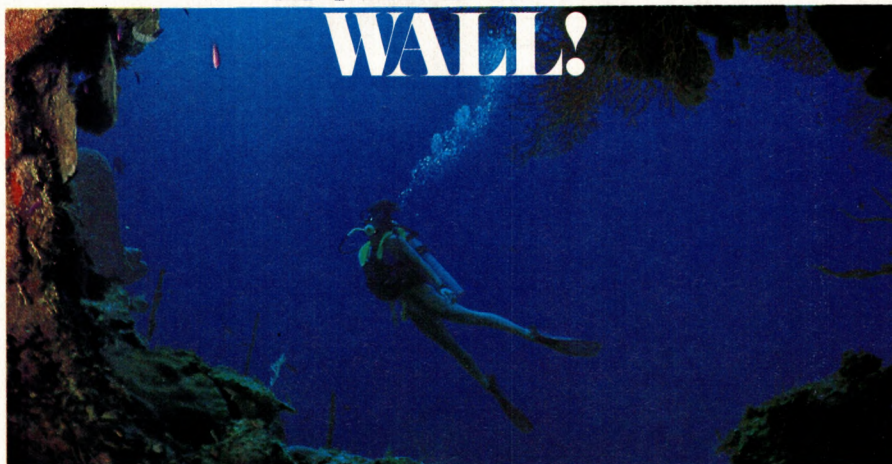
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MONTEREY'S MAMMALS

tain their body heat in the chilly waters that serve as their home. Good insulation, however, can cause problems if the mammals become overheated from exertion. To overcome this problem sea lions cool themselves by immersing their flippers in cold water or warm themselves by exposing their flippers to the rays of the sun.

Sea lions are easily recognized by the presence of small external ear flaps and the ability to fold their hind flippers forward, alongside the body. However, sea lions are often confused with another of Monterey's marine mammals, the harbor seal. This is the only kind of earless seal along the Northern California coast. Harbor seals don't have the external ear flap and are unable to fold their hind flippers forward alongside the body. On land the



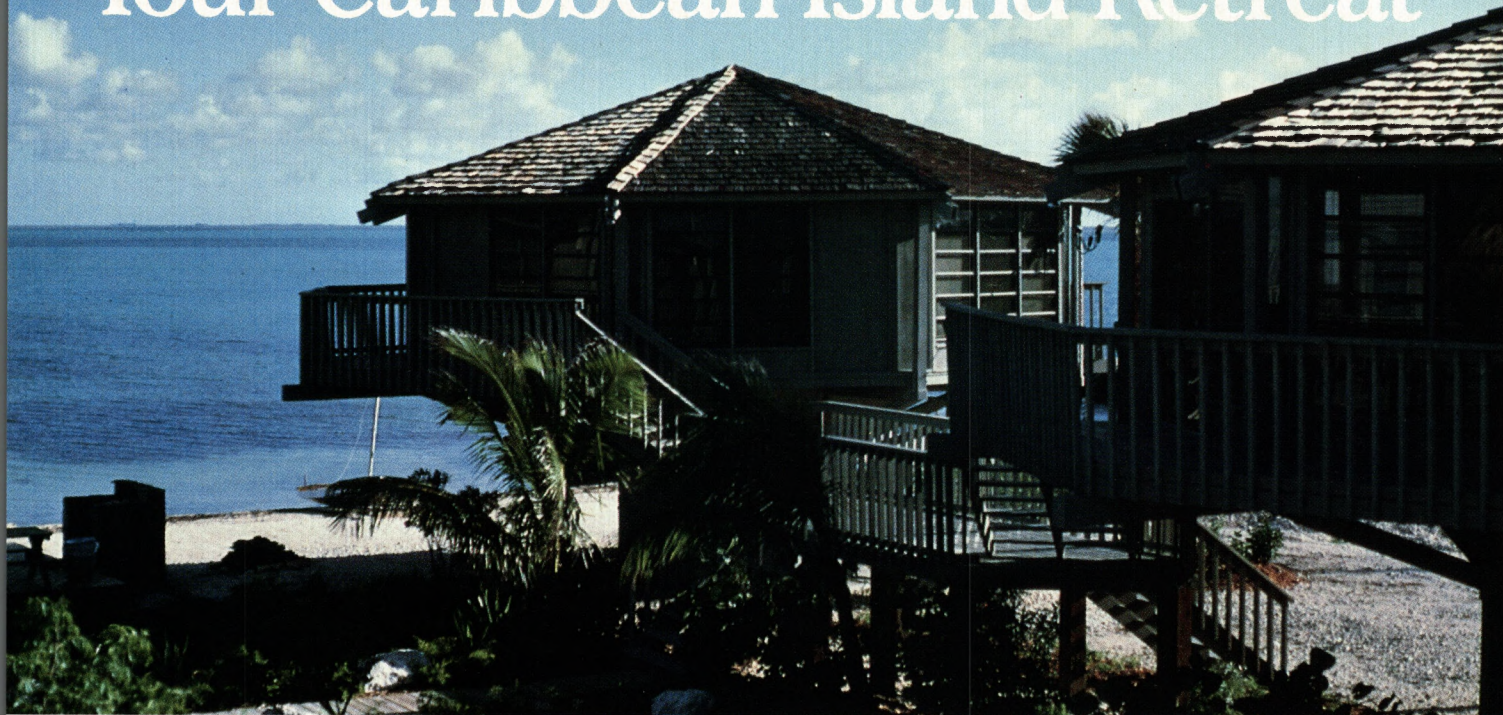
Reluctant to leave its warm, comfortable, rocky perch, a California sea lion watches the photographer's approach warily.

differences become readily apparent. Seals move in a ponderous, worm-like fashion, while sea lions put all their weight on their flippers and are able to move quickly on land.

Harbor seals are much smaller than sea lions and look a great deal like swollen cigars, five or six feet in length, with large curious eyes and bewhiskered, puppy-like faces. Their color varies from light gray or tan to almost black and they are mostly mottled or spotted. Unlike the vociferous sea lions, seals are usually silent animals. They are often seen basking in uncomfortable positions on rocks just above the waterline, shifting their positions to adjust to incoming swells. Staying close to the water and keeping an alert eye on their surroundings, they are always ready to make a quick getaway.

Harbor seals make their home in Monterey all year. They are usually described as polygamous or promiscuous, but do not form organized harems for breeding as do sea lions. The pups, which can swim almost from birth, nurse only a few

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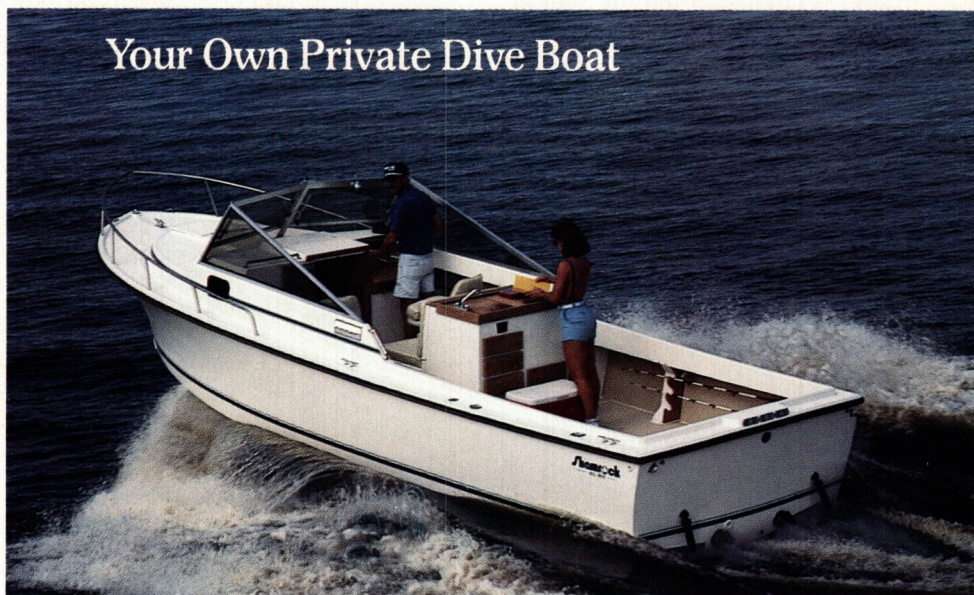
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MONTEREY'S MAMMALS

weeks. They are usually born on land, but may also be born in the water.

There are several locations in Monterey County where divers are most likely to be visited by harbor seals underwater. In Whaler's Cove at the Point Lobos State Reserve harbor seals can often be found on the wash rocks to the left of the entrance to the cove, between Cannery Point and Bird Rock. Meetings with seals are usually unexpected and usually at the whim of the seal's own curiosity.

Divers entering the water between Lover's Point and Chase Reef inside Monterey Bay will frequently be visited by one



Silhouetted against the sun's rays, a sea lion cruises by on an observation run.

of several friendly harbor seals. Numerous divers have reported encounters with seals in this area. At Otter Cove just east of Lover's Point, there is a seal nicknamed Spot that will often follow divers for the duration of a dive, begging for handouts or inviting an affectionate pat.

Spearfishermen will usually pique the curiosity of the intelligent mammals, which are always looking for a quick meal, but divers with fish on a stringer should be forewarned that harbor seals may not take no for an answer: They have been known to literally rip fish off a diver's stringer.

The marine mammal that has captured the heart of the public in Central California is the sea otter. Often referred to as the teddy bear of the ocean, it is the smallest of the marine mammals. It is cute and appears to be cuddly, intelligent and friendly. However, it is this furry bundle of energy that has stirred a series of hotly debated controversies. The issues have evolved around the stability and vulnerability of the otter population in California and the otters' appetite for shellfish.

While somewhat approachable on the surface, otters usually retreat when divers get too close. To the untrained eye, they look a lot like small logs floating in the kelp with bumps at both ends. The bumps are the otter's head and hind flippers, which the otter keeps out of the water to prevent heat loss. The otters eat and sleep in this position and rarely come ashore. Generally, otters are about four

and one-half feet in length. Males weigh close to 60 pounds while 40 pounds is average for the female.

Because sea otters do not have an insulating layer of fat such as sea lions and harbor seals, they depend upon a rapid metabolism and a layer of air bubbles trapped in their fur to keep them warm in water that averages 50-56°F. To maintain this metabolic rate the otter must eat approximately 25 percent of its body weight every day. They are opportunistic feeders, eating whatever is available in a certain area. It is believed their favorite foods are sea urchins, abalone, crabs and clams, all of which provide a generous return in caloric intake. When their favorite foods are in short supply otters will resort to eating snails, mussels, rock scallops, starfish and other less energy effi-



As interested in the photographer as vice versa, a harbor seal takes a close look.

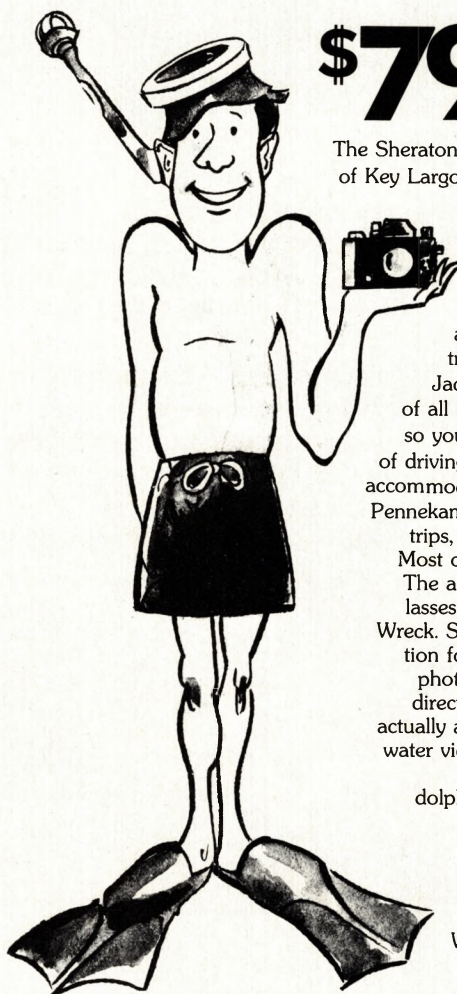
cient foods. Otters have large teeth and strong jaws that enable them to literally crush hard shells. Therefore, it is a good idea for divers to be very cautious about trying to pet otters that approach out of curiosity and appear to be friendly.

Besides feeding, grooming has the second highest priority in the otter's day. Because the otter's thick layer of fur is so important to its retention of body heat, it must meticulously groom its air-filled fur before feeding to prepare it for diving in the cold water. After feeding for 25 minutes or more, it must clean the fur of particles and refill it with air bubbles.

Ironically, the same luxurious fur that protects the sea otter in the cold water of the Pacific Ocean almost caused it to be hunted to extinction by the early 20th century. In 1938, it was publicly announced that a raft of 50 or more otters were sighted off Point Sur in Central California. An estimated population of 300 otters that existed at that time slowly expanded to the approximately 1,500 animals now found along the Central California coast.

The divers who visit the Monterey area are extremely lucky to be able to observe and interact with Monterey's marine mammals. However, it should be kept in mind the ocean is their home. We are only visitors, who must respect their right to exist without interference. Their choice to interact with divers in their environment is truly one of the great treasures of the Monterey Peninsula. 

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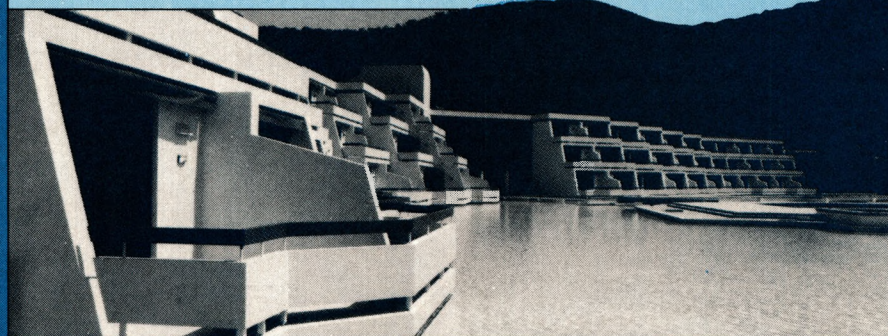


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Underwater Logging

Logs Lost To River Are Enterprise For Entrepreneurs

BY GREGORY S. STONE

Collecting and salvaging things from the bottom of the ocean, lakes and rivers is a widespread passion in diving. Treasure, bottles, old anchors, scallops and lobsters are among the things divers will hoist above or stuff in their goodie bags. I recently learned of a new item to be added to this list—old sunken logs.

When my friend Ben Baxter called and said he was going to salvage logs from the bottom of the Machias River in Maine, I thought he was kidding. But, I learned the river bottom is covered with old logs from the days when the paper companies floated them down from cutting areas up north. From 1800 to 1962 they were transporting 10 to 30 million board feet a year in log drives on this river alone. That's more than 250,000 logs.

About 2,000 logs a year never made it to the mill because they got caught in weeds, ran aground on shoals or slowly became waterlogged and sank. The riv-

er's been good to them. There is very little rot and after a few weeks of drying they can be cut and sold as good lumber.

Five months after Ben's call, I went up to visit him at his new home overlooking the Machias River. His house is nestled among the trees with a beautiful view of the meandering river that contains his livelihood. Around Ben's house is a wide deck with light-toned, diagonally laid boards. I mentioned how attractive the wooden deck was and asked him where the lumber came from. He was as surprised by my question as I was by the realization that submarine logs do exist.

"The river, of course. Every board you see was from my first load. They're mostly hemlock, which is what I'm finding the river is mainly full of, though sometimes it's hard to tell exactly what the logs are. Most of the bark is worn off and without it, all logs look very similar. Originally, I figured the guys at the mill could identify

them for me, but they had no idea what the wood was. One of the first things I had to learn was identification of wood by the grain structure on the end of a log. While it is remarkable what ten power



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Aboard a custom dive boat you have a choice of one, two, or three single-tank dives per day. There are two boat night dives per week and the crystal lagoon invites you to enjoy unlimited shore diving.

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tography (E-6 processing daily) or schedule your own underwater video production. Later in the week our famous West Bay Picnic will treat you to the most beautiful beach scenery this side of Tahiti.

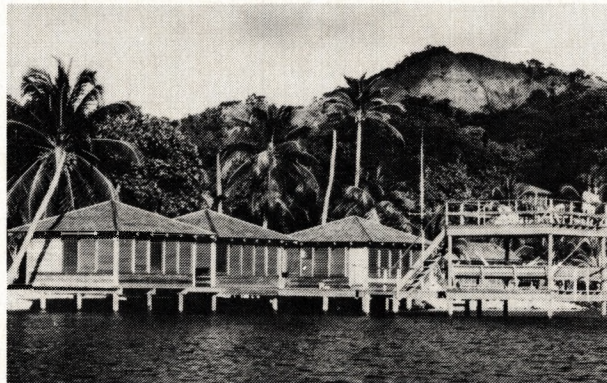
Topside, there is tennis, horseback riding, windsurfing, sunfish sailing, canoeing, blue-water fishing and, our

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*Stunning pillar coral formation
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magnification will show you of wood structure, it's not easy to distinguish the different types."

As a matter of fact, all parts of his operation were tougher than he imagined. The building market is uncertain and customers are wary of this unusual product. The logistical complications of underwater salvage are considerable as well. But this pond dried lumber, as it's called, has some exceptional advantages over conventionally harvested wood. Namely, the river water has replaced the tightly bound cellulosic water of green lumber, which is responsible for slow drying and twisting. Ben's logs dry fast and straight.

Ben's house is about 100 yards from the river, up a steep bank, and there's no road down to the water. We hooked a couple of outboard engines and our scuba gear on a cable system he had constructed, slid them down to the river and began a day of underwater logging.

Ben's boat was tied to some bushes on the riverbank. It's a magnificent little contraption with aluminum pontoons on each side, a mast coming out of the center, and a peavy, ax, lines, buoys, inner tubes and his dog Tasha lying on the deck. I half expected Huck Finn to poke his head out from the bushes and say hello. We strapped the engines on, stowed the diving gear and headed up river to a new area Ben had not yet surveyed.

Before he invested much money in this business Ben swam under the river to de-



photos/Gregory Stone

From 1800 to 1962, the equivalent of 10 to 30 million board feet of logs were transported each year on the Machias River in Maine. About 2,000 logs per year never made it to the mill—lost along the river for various reasons. Ben Baxter salvages these logs to sell as lumber. His boat features aluminum pontoons, a mast and inner tubes to float the logs.

termine exactly how many logs were there. He is a field biologist, among other things, and he used the same transect theory on the logs that he used for offshore whale surveys. He swam dozens of randomly chosen survey lines, covering

five percent of the bottom, to estimate how many sinkers there were on the river bed. While Ben is hesitant to reveal how many logs are there, he did say there are enough to keep him going for years.

(Continued on Page 114)

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Riding Rock Inn...

The 41 foot *San Sally* and other Riding Rock Inn boats carry guests on morning two tank dives and afternoon single tank dives. Right: San Salvador Island offers exciting encounters with marine life such as this large southern stingray at Sandcastles. Below: San Salvador's airport offers a friendly, island-style welcome. The Riding Rock Inn offers 24 comfortable, air-conditioned guest rooms—half of which face the ocean.



I have an exciting story to tell. It's a tale of an island, its myths, legends and storybook adventures. Perched on the brink of the great blue Atlantic Ocean, there's a land of shipwrecks and sandcastles, cathedrals and pillars. It's a Shangri-La, backdropped by rugged cliffs and green rolling hills. Underwater, a different perspective is viewed. The cast of characters is peculiar, a pugnacious crew by trade. Here, you will find groupers, like self-appointed jesters entertaining affectionate damsels, while lone barracuda sentries inspect the troops of sergeant majors patrolling the reefs. The tale is of San Salvador Island, the legend is the Riding Rock Inn.

variety of corals and fish life found here, it is not hard to imagine that just about anywhere you could throw an anchor you would expect incredible diving.

One of the more popular dive locations we visited on our trip to San Salvador was French Bay Wall on the south side of the island. We found huge beds of staghorn corals crowning the top of the wall at 70 feet. From here it drops vertically to more than 18,000 feet. The face of the cliff is punctuated with vertical crevasses, sand chutes and overhangs, creating winding paths and chimneys that burst out onto the drop-off. The sponges and corals are magnificently colored.

Sandcastles is a shallower wall dive.

to 25 feet of water. The two most prominent features are the giant steam boilers and parts of the engines. Most of the ship is scattered on the ocean bottom, making this a great area for wreck photography.

Today, San Salvador is a quaint little island stretched out in the southeastern Bahamas (not to be confused with the city of San Salvador in Central America) 385 miles southeast of Miami and 200 miles distant from Nassau. The island is somewhat oblong in shape, measuring 12 miles long and about five miles wide.

Riding Rock Inn is a diver's resort. The main building houses the reception desk and offices, the dining room, small bar and large veranda with an oceanside

The Rebirth Of San Salvador Diving

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY GREG JOHNSTON

After being closed for nearly three years, the Riding Rock Inn reopened earlier this year under the watchful eye of James Carter Williams, Bahamian businessman, contractor and hotel owner. Williams knew the potential of the resort hotel. Riding Rock Inn had the reputation of being one of the best in the Bahamas, as well as one of the top ten diving destinations in the world.

Ednald Thompson is the hotel general manager and a familiar face around the resort. Together, Williams and Thompson have directed their efforts toward providing a safe and courteous service for their guests and promoting the optimum diving adventure on San Salvador. Carter Williams has done little to change the atmosphere of the hotel; the out-island ambience is still very much the same. Many of the original management and staff personnel are back, carefully keeping the old charm of the New World settlement. Well known and experienced Bahama dive guide, Al Zamrok, is back on the island as manager of dive operations and resident photo pro. Additionally, Terry Hiles has joined the staff as divemaster and Wendy Woods runs the dive shop and rental department. Zamrok and his staff continually explore the waters and outer banks, adding new places to the top quality sites presently being dived.

Underwater, San Salvador is an incredibly busy place. The coral reefs are teeming with fish of every imaginable color and description. The resident groupers, snappers and jacks fearlessly display a natural curiosity of visiting divers. It is not uncommon to have a large grouper peer casually into your facemask and then escort you around the reef. There are more than 50 excellent dive locations. And, judging by the sheer magnitude of the underwater cliff, the stunning

The reef starts at 40 feet and drops diagonally to about 100, where the wall suddenly turns vertical. This area was named after the sand mounds in the shallows that rise one to two feet from the seafloor like small castles. This area is home to many small inquisitive jawfish. Large southern stingrays are often found feeding in the sand shallows.

Shangri-La is a deep, carved wall only ten minutes from the marina. Shaped like a theater, the south cusp has a large black coral tree at 100 feet, the other cusp sprouts a giant cluster of purple tube sponges. There are friendly groupers here that are happy to pose with your photo buddy.

The Cathedrals is another unique dive site. It was named after the many towering coral pinnacles that resemble church spires. Each pinnacle is a world unto itself; covered with hard corals, sponges, plate corals and gorgonians.

Snapshot Reef is closer inshore and is usually a second or night dive. It is appropriately named because of the many photo classes taught here. A large 30 pound grouper named Fred is your host on this dive. When I asked where I might find him the divemaster quickly told me not to worry, Fred would find me. And, no sooner did I find myself submerged than there was Fred, staring ominously into my facemask. After I took a few pictures of him he became a nuisance, always wanting to get in front of the camera. However, there is plenty of other marine life. The reef teems with lobster, spotted stingrays, moray eels, barracuda, grunts and a wealth of other species. Several anchors have been placed at Snapshot Reef for photographers.

The wreck of the *Frascate* is another excellent shallow dive. This 261 foot freighter sank in 1902 and now lies in 12

view. There are 24 air-conditioned guest rooms in two rows: Half face the ocean, the others overlook the freshwater pool. Next to the rooms are six time/share cottages and a new two-story rental complex. The tennis court is adjacent to the small cottages and beyond that is the marina complex, dive shop and underwater photo service.

Guanahani Dive Ltd. is a full service dive store offering resort and open water certification courses. The photo center has a complete rental line of Nikonos V cameras and Nikon strobes. E-6 film processing is available and there are photo courses and instruction.

Riding Rock offers three boat dives each day except the days of arrival and departure. There are three dive boats: the 47 foot *Sea Fan*, the 41 foot *San Sally* and the 30 foot *Island Time*. Depending upon the number of guests, each boat leaves the marina at 9:00 am on a scheduled morning two tank dive. The first dive is on a wall in 50 to 100 feet of water. The second is usually on a shallow reef or wreck. After the second dive the boat returns to the marina where the guests may enjoy a hot lunch and relax on one of the many chaise lounges at the pool. The afternoon boat leaves the marina at 2:30 pm, usually for a deep dive site. There are night dives on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Guests may opt for a night dive and spend an afternoon visiting one of the many historical sites found on the island.

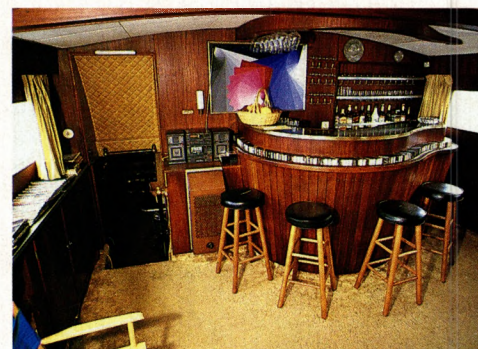
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Tropic Bird



Above: The *Tropic Bird* is one of the most well established dive boats operating in the British Virgin Islands. Originally a German E-boat, she also worked as a treasure hunting vessel for a time. Right: The *Bird* features a cozy stereophonic lounge, with cassette tapes laid out along a unique rack. Video is also offered. Top: Seafans at Blonde Rocks. This site offers a great many caves and caverns loaded with marine life. On night dives one may encounter curious squid. The enthusiasm of captain Mike Bloss makes every cruise a special experience.



Flyaway To The BVI

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY STEPHEN FRINK

Part of the beauty of the British Virgin Islands as a dive destination is the immensity of the potential. There are more than 50 islands and cays providing protected anchorages for cruising yachts, as well as serving to anchor the magnificent system of coral reefs. The protected cruising channel is alternately known as Sir Francis Drake Channel or "The Pond" and is more than 45 miles in length. Because of the above reasons, the BVI has developed as a yachtsman's paradise. Here the range and mobility of a live-aboard vessel is an obvious asset to those wishing to sample the beauty and diversity of the area in general.

Likewise, for those with a more specific interest in underwater BVI, the beauty and diversity are equally dramatic and the need for a live-aboard dive vessel, important. The live-aboard becomes a floating hotel. The dives become more convenient and more frequent and the reefs are more accessible at all hours of the day or night. From the criteria of maximum dives available to a vacationer in a given space of time, there is no more efficient form of dive travel than the live-aboard dive boat. For sheer diving dedication, there is no more efficient boat working in the BVI than the *Tropic Bird*.

The physical aspect of the boat is impressive: It is 110 feet long on the deck, powered by twin Caterpillar diesels with a cruising range of 7,500 miles, has 24 hour electric service (110 volts, 60 cycles), is fully air-conditioned, has stereo, VHS and Beta video, a Sunfish sailboat, and two Tekna scooters available to guests at no extra charge. There are two inflatable chase boats, a massive dive platform, full dive gear for up to 24 guests, 42 aluminum scuba cylinders, two Mako K14 compressors, full wet bar, galley, video lounge and ample sundeck area with chaise lounge and sun mats.

Accommodations are in 12 double cabins and there are two showers, five heads and an extensive lending library of books, magazines, audio and video tapes. With all her toys, goodies and design accommodations to facilitate diver convenience, the *Tropic Bird* of today is much different from her historical role as a German E-boat. She also worked as a treasure hunter in the Bahamas for eight years, but for the past seven years the *Tropic Bird* has been used for recreational diving.

There have been additions to the crew of the *Tropic Bird* since my two prior charter experiences. It now includes a very comfortable complement of seven, consisting of two captains, a cook and presumably a first mate, steward and other official titles. The reality of the crew structure is more like a team with various specialties, but all seem targeted toward making guests feel welcome, comfortable, well-fed and well-dived. The captain of the team (and of the boat) is Mike Bloss, who, along with Phil Clarkson, owns the boat. It is Mike's love of diving and general enthusiasm for the BVI that set the tone of the charter. The *Tropic Bird* will allow up to seven dives per day, beginning with a 7:00 am pre-breakfast dive and ending with a night dive. Captain Mike Bloss will be in the water on every one of them. Most of the crew is certified as either a divemaster or an instructor, so it's not like Bloss has to dive this much. He just enjoys diving in general and underwater in the BVI specifically.

Just think of the numbers for a moment. The *Tropic Bird* was on charter 42 weeks last year. Each charter is at least six days. The average day is five dives. That's 1,260 dives per year and the *Bird* is going on her seventh year in the BVI. Bloss is a man who loves diving!

The *Tropic Bird* is really quite affordable, especially when you consider the number of available dives per vacation dollar. In fact, from the criterion of number of dives per dollar, the *Tropic Bird* is one of the best values in the Caribbean, especially when you factor in the lodging, meals, air fills, scuba gear and all the rest that is supplied at no extra charge.

All of this talk of maxi-diving makes it seem the *Bird* is dedicated to gorilla divers. It can be, but doesn't have to be. For example, on my first outing, the charter group was a club comprised primarily of New Jersey wreck divers. Most of them logged in excess of 40 dives for their week of charter and had a grand time. The next year I went back and joined a charter with the Black Magic Dive Shop from Round Lake, Illinois. These divers were enthusiastic, but also were interested in doing a little beachcombing, snorkeling and were willing to forego an occasional night dive in favor of a party now and then. These folks may have logged 24 to 30 dives in their week and they, too,

had a grand time. This year the boat was filled with repeat guests, a very common occurrence with the *Tropic Bird*. A few had been on the boat just once before, several were experiencing their third charter and one especially loyal diver was celebrating her seventh charter. For these folks the diving imperative was somewhat less and several were content with just a few dives per day. The point is, the itinerary and service of the *Tropic Bird* is structured to provide as little or as much diving as the guests desire. In fact, it is not necessary to even be a diver to join the charter. A nondiver may participate in a full scuba certification aboard the *Bird* during his/her week of charter for only \$100 additional.

The typical week aboard the *Tropic Bird* progresses something like this: Guests board the boat at Port Purcell in Road Town, Tortola on a Saturday, usually around 4:00 pm. Assuming no luggage problems or stragglers, the vessel will leave that afternoon or at least by 7:00 am on Sunday. The first dive Sunday will likely be on Peter Island in 30 to 40 feet of water on the wreck of the *Imene*. This is a 60 foot island freighter scuttled five years ago along a white sand bottom ringed by coral ledges. The dive is in sheltered water, is fascinating and an ideal place to sort out rusty diving skills or unused equipment. Either the wreck or other sections of the reef will be the dive sites for Sunday, including a night dive. Most night dives are conducted right under the boat for both convenience and safety reasons. Powerful mercury vapor lights illuminate the diving deck of the *Bird* at night and she is comfortably easy to spot from the ocean floor.

After a pre-breakfast dive, the vessel will motor to Norman Island on Monday. It frequently stops at the Truck Reef—notable for the dump truck, Dodge stakebed and several cars sitting on the bottom there—or sometimes at a site called Black Forest in 30 to 80 feet of water, which is loaded with black coral. Lunch is served at Norman Island and the afternoon dives may be in the caves or reefs surrounding the anchorage.

Tuesday brings a visit to the Indians, a series of rocky pinnacles jutting out of the water like some sort of petrified giant's headband. Underwater scenery at the Indians is fascinating for the pillar coral formations, fish life and caves full of copper sweepers and glass minnows. The evening's anchorage on Tuesday is usually Norman Island, but from this base the crew will deploy spacious inflatables to transport divers to Spyglass Wall. This is a vertical drop from 20 to 60 feet with colorful tube and encrusting sponges and a fine opportunity to photograph spotted eagle rays.

Wednesday morning offers a chance to dive Ring Dove Rock, a mini seamount rising from 60 to 15 feet and one of my

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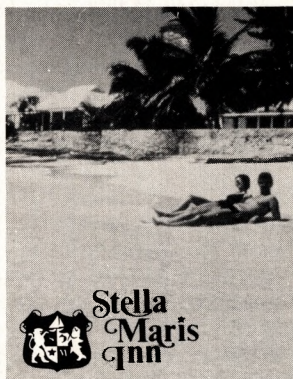
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TROPIC BIRD

personal favorites of the BVI for the dense and approachable fish life. Pillar corals and hard corals of all kinds surround the pinnacle and, while it is easy to circumnavigate the rock on a single dive, I usually get so sidetracked with photo opportunities that I see only small vignettes of the reef.

Cooper Island is the afternoon's destination: the shallow coral gardens of Haulover Bay. The inflatables will provide access to Vanishing Rock, which rises from 40 feet to awash at low tide. Here again the dense, colorful and exciting fish life is a complement to the pillar coral, gorgonians, sea fans and encrusted coral ledges.

Thursday will include a trip to the Dogs in the Virgin Gorda area. A couple of dives may be done on the dive site known as the Chimney and, while this is a beautiful dive site, for me the highlight of Thursday may have been our visit to the Baths. This is a jumble of gigantic granite boulders along a beautiful white sandy beach. Here we snorkeled and climbed among the rocks and simply enjoyed one of the very special places of the British Virgin Islands. Thursday also included a late afternoon trip to Salt Island and an afternoon dive on the stern section of the *Rhone*, followed by a night dive in the same area.

Driven against the rocks and reef of Salt Island by a sudden and violent hurricane in 1867, the *Rhone* was once a 310 foot Royal Mail Steamer. Now she is the stellar attraction of the BVI constellation of dive sites. The bow section lies mostly intact on its starboard side in 80 feet of water, the mid section in 65 feet and the stern in 15 to 35 feet. Like most shipwrecks, the *Rhone* has attracted huge schools of fish. This dive site, as well as many others throughout the BVI, is protected as a marine sanctuary and spearfishing is prohibited. As a result the fish have become quite friendly and approachable. There is considerable coral encrustation and the night dive on the *Rhone* is a magnificent explosion of color with each strobe burst. If you dive the stern section in the afternoon and again at night, the wreck is much easier to visualize and the transition of marine life from day to night is particularly fascinating.

On Friday it is especially good to rise early for the pre-breakfast dive on the bow section and the mid section. The *Rhone* is understandably popular as a dive site and most of the charter boats as well as the land-based day boats dive the wreck regularly. This pre-breakfast dive from the *Tropic Bird* is a rare opportunity to see the wreck before the other divers of the day converge, and should not be missed. On Friday the underwater photo

team from Caribbean Images will usually rendezvous with the *Tropic Bird* to shoot underwater videos of the guests. The edited videos are available for sale before the cruise ends. Friday will generally include another dive on the stern of the *Rhone* and an afternoon dive on a remarkable dive site known as Painted Walls. Finally, regrettably, guests return to Port Purcell and a Saturday departure.

The *Tropic Bird* cruise is one of the best ways for the dedicated diver to sample the joys of diving the British Virgin Islands and, in fact, it's guaranteed. If any day of diving is missed owing to weather, a full refund of the boat package price is automatic. Of course, in seven years Captain Bloss has not had to exercise such a refund. A hurricane is about the only weather that would keep the *Bird* from finding a diveable leeward shore. Still, it's a comfort to know that when you travel for your diving pleasure, the *Tropic Bird* will be there to deliver.

For further information or reservations, please contact the *Tropic Bird* at Easy Adventures, Inc., The Anchorage, Estate Nazareth, Route 6, St. Thomas, USVI 00802; (800) 524-2027 or Scuba Tours, Inc., 5 Paterson Ave., P.O. Box G, Little Falls, NJ 07424; (800) 526-1394. In New Jersey phone (201) 256-9115.

TURNEFFE ISLAND LODGE

(Continued from Page 66)

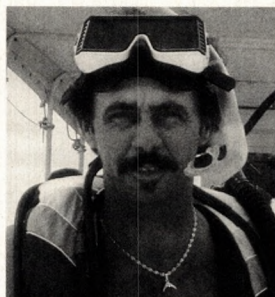
like with a sandy beach, coconut palms, a lighthouse, ironshore with tidepools and even a booby bird sanctuary. The offshore wall starts in only 30 feet of water and is richly embellished with the massive yellow tube sponges so unique to Belize. Half Moon Caye is a remarkable combination of topside beauty and underwater appeal, but there is no way to get there except by boat. The live-aboard dive boats of Belize typically include Lighthouse Reef on their itineraries, but the Turneffe Island Lodge is easily the nearest land based resort.

The dive packages at the Turneffe Island Lodge are typically structured from Saturday to Saturday with the day of arrival held unstructured for touring Belize City, trips to the interior and Maya ruins or general relaxation. The overnight at the Fort George Hotel or the Villa is included in the package and the *Grand Slam* departs the hotel docks at 7:30 am on Sunday for the Turneffe Islands.

The Turneffe Island Lodge is closed during the months of August, September and October. For reservations or further information, please contact the Turneffe Island Lodge at 2230 Bissonnet, Houston, Texas 77005. Phone inquiries may be directed to (800) 772-1002 or (713) 528-3988.



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WHITE SHARK TRIPS

Since 1976, See & Sea Travel of San Francisco has offered trips to experience the great white shark. For 1987, Carl Roessler will escort two groups to South Australia to film these great predators. Roessler's 1986 group filmed as many as six great whites a day.

For information on See & Sea's January 31 and February 8 departures, contact See & Sea Travel, Inc., 50 Francisco St., Suite 205, San Francisco, CA 94133; (800) DIV-XPRT—in California (415) 434-3400.

LA STREGA/BELIZE & ROATAN

The operators of Belize's live-aboard dive yacht, *La Strega*, have scheduled two more ten day Belize/Roatan trips for next year. The first is scheduled for January. The passengers will fly non-stop jet to Belize from Miami, New Orleans or Houston, where they will be met at the airport by *La Strega*'s manager and host, Hugh Parkey, and transported to the vessel. On the tenth day, the passengers will depart Roatan for the return trip to the United States.

This schedule provides a unique opportunity for divers to visit the best sites of both Belize's Barrier Reef and the Bay Islands of Honduras; Roatan and Utila.

Except for the Belize/Roatan trips, *La Strega* will continue to operate its popular weekly departure schedule, diving Belize's Barrier Reef, Lighthouse Reef, the Blue Hole and Glover's Reef.

La Strega has opened a full time state-side office in Houston, Texas. This office will provide information and assistance to divers interested in Belize diving and speed up response to *La Strega* customers. The new facility will be open Monday through Friday, 9:00 am Eastern Time to 5:00 pm Pacific Daylight Time.

For further information contact the office of *La Strega*, 5818 Green Falls Drive, Houston, TX 77088 or call toll free (800) 433-DIVE. Texas and Canadian residents may call collect (713) 999-4852.

BUCCANEER'S PACKAGE

Buccaneer's Inn on Cayman Brac is now offering the Buccaneer Booster Package through December 14. The package includes air-conditioned room, airport transfers, breakfast, two boat dives daily and unlimited shore diving off Buccaneer's Inn beach.

Buccaneer's Inn, along with Brac Aquatic Ltd., is the longest established resort property on the island. For further information, please contact Buccaneer's Inn, P.O. Box 68, Cayman Brac, BWI; (809) 948-7257.

BLACKBEARD'S CRUISES

Blackbeard's Cruises is offering three nine day cruises to the Nassau area. These trips will explore the Berry Islands and the Joulters. They will depart on Saturday from Miami and return the following Sunday. The trips depart on January 17 and 24 and February 7. There will also be a Christmas Cruise December 20-26, with Santa Claus making a special appearance. ❧

HONDURAS VIDEO LOANER

Divers who own a home video tape player can take advantage of a free video tape loaner program being offered by Co-Co View Resort on Roatan. A new 20 minute show features beach, boat and wreck diving on Roatan's south shore. Other scenes include diving throughout the Honduras Bay Islands aboard *Reef Runner*, the resort's air-conditioned live-aboard dive boat.

To obtain a free loaner video tape, divers can call the CoCo View Resort U.S. office at (800) 282-8932 or write to P.O. Box 877, San Antonio, FL 34266. A \$20 refundable deposit is required. ❧

POSADA DEL SOL

Posada del Sol (Inn of the Sun) on the island of Guanaja in the Bay Islands of Honduras has appointed Tino Montoroso manager of diving operations. Tino has been mapping numerous new dive locations in the area including several cave sites containing sleeping bull and black-tip sharks. Permanent moorings are being placed at these and other sites to protect the reef life from anchor damage.

Posada del Sol also has a new state-side address and telephone numbers. Please direct inquiries to: Posada del Sol, P.O. Box 537, Boca Raton, Florida 33429. Telephone U.S. toll free (800) 642-DIVE. In Florida call (305) 944-8554. ❧

REEF HOUSE YACHT

Reef House Resort, on the island of Roatan in the Bay Islands of Honduras, has added a 33 foot Morgan sailing yacht. It sleeps six and will be used for day and overnight sailing/diving as well as tarpon and bone fishing trips in any combination. Itineraries and activities will be custom tailored to the desires of the guests. Reef House already has a 38 foot dive boat and a fully equipped dive shop.

Reef House Resort has new telephone numbers and a new address. Please direct all inquiries to: Reef House Resort, P.O. Box 640399, Kenner, Louisiana 70064 or call toll free (800) 341-1950, ext. 73. In Louisiana call (504) 467-2949. ❧

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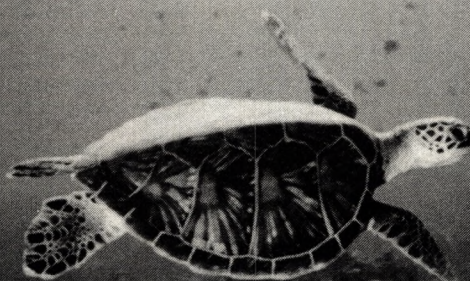
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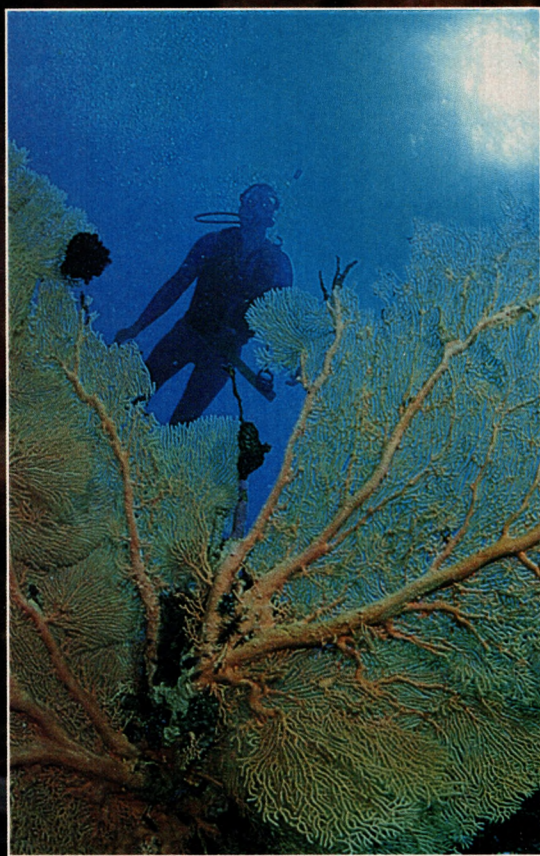
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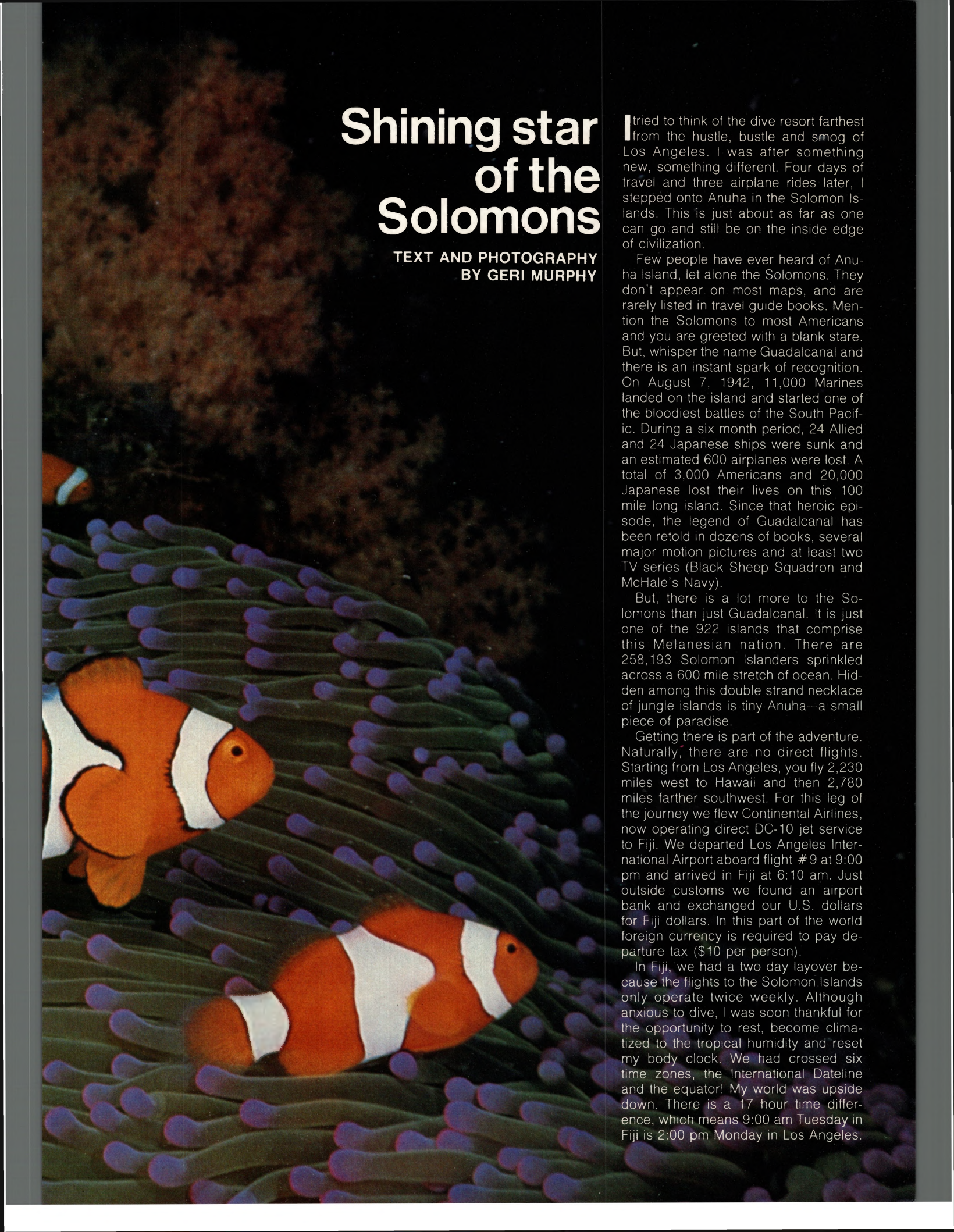
ADVANCED TRAVEL

ANUHA ISLAND RESORT



Brilliant orange and white anemonefish (*Amphiprion* sp.) line up in formation, facing the current, above their purple-tipped host. Immune to the lethal sting of the anemone's tentacles, these fish make their home where predators dare not follow. It is believed each of these large anemones is home to only members of one family of fish (i.e., father, mother and offspring). Above left: Gigantic sea fans abound on Anuha Wall. Left: The lush green of the Florida group of islands in the Solomons. Below: The immaculate freshwater pool at Anuha Island Resort.





Shining star of the Solomons

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY GERI MURPHY

I tried to think of the dive resort farthest from the hustle, bustle and smog of Los Angeles. I was after something new, something different. Four days of travel and three airplane rides later, I stepped onto Anuha in the Solomon Islands. This is just about as far as one can go and still be on the inside edge of civilization.

Few people have ever heard of Anuha Island, let alone the Solomons. They don't appear on most maps, and are rarely listed in travel guide books. Mention the Solomons to most Americans and you are greeted with a blank stare. But, whisper the name Guadalcanal and there is an instant spark of recognition. On August 7, 1942, 11,000 Marines landed on the island and started one of the bloodiest battles of the South Pacific. During a six month period, 24 Allied and 24 Japanese ships were sunk and an estimated 600 airplanes were lost. A total of 3,000 Americans and 20,000 Japanese lost their lives on this 100 mile long island. Since that heroic episode, the legend of Guadalcanal has been retold in dozens of books, several major motion pictures and at least two TV series (Black Sheep Squadron and McHale's Navy).

But, there is a lot more to the Solomons than just Guadalcanal. It is just one of the 922 islands that comprise this Melanesian nation. There are 258,193 Solomon Islanders sprinkled across a 600 mile stretch of ocean. Hidden among this double strand necklace of jungle islands is tiny Anuha—a small piece of paradise.

Getting there is part of the adventure. Naturally, there are no direct flights. Starting from Los Angeles, you fly 2,230 miles west to Hawaii and then 2,780 miles farther southwest. For this leg of the journey we flew Continental Airlines, now operating direct DC-10 jet service to Fiji. We departed Los Angeles International Airport aboard flight #9 at 9:00 pm and arrived in Fiji at 6:10 am. Just outside customs we found an airport bank and exchanged our U.S. dollars for Fiji dollars. In this part of the world foreign currency is required to pay departure tax (\$10 per person).

In Fiji, we had a two day layover because the flights to the Solomon Islands only operate twice weekly. Although anxious to dive, I was soon thankful for the opportunity to rest, become climatized to the tropical humidity and reset my body clock. We had crossed six time zones, the International Dateline and the equator! My world was upside down. There is a 17 hour time difference, which means 9:00 am Tuesday in Fiji is 2:00 pm Monday in Los Angeles.



Island Dive Services Ltd. runs the dive operation on Anuha Island. Its boats operate on a fairly informal, flexible schedule and carry divers to incredible sites such as Barracuda Point, which features an amazing variety of corals and blizzards of tropical fish.



The guest cabins at Anuha Island Resort are hidden among the coconut palms close to the lagoon. Each is built Melanesian style of local wood and features a ceiling fan and mosquito netting. There are no paved roads to disrupt the tropical tranquillity.



Our layover was a delightful interlude, made even lovelier by a brief stay at the Hyatt Regency Fiji. On the fabulous Coral Coast, this luxury resort offers a marvelous array of activities in a spectacular setting. Sailing, golf, tennis, scuba and sightseeing make Fiji the "Hawaii of the Western Pacific."

At 6:25 am Thursday, our Air Pacific 737 jet departed Nadi airport for a three hour flight 1,280 miles northwest to Honiara, capital of the Solomons and Guadalcanal's major city. The Solomons is one of the few countries on earth where Americans are required to pay both an arrival and a departure tax—in either Australian or Solomon dollars.

At Honiara we had an opportunity to briefly tour Guadalcanal and meet Rick and Jane Belmare, owners of Island Dive Services Ltd. They are veterans of the resort diving business, having worked for Bob Soto's Diving, Grand Cayman and also managing the Cayman Diving Lodge from 1978 to 1981. They have been in the Solomons four years and love it.

At 3:30 pm we were back at the airport, checking in at the Solair counter. Solair stands for Solomon Islands Airways Limited, the official airline of the Solomons. A twin engine Aztec commuter plane made the trip from Honiara to Anuha in 15 minutes, traveling 30 miles due north. We finally arrived at our destination, 6,320 miles from Los Angeles.

In order to fully appreciate Anuha we need to say a few words about the Solomons in general. This major string of islands is between Fiji and New Guinea. This puts them close to the western edge of the South Pacific and very close to the world's richest concentration of Indo-Pacific fishes and marine creatures.

As for the weather, it is definitely tropical. The Solomons are only five to ten degrees south of the equator, putting them in the same latitude as New Guinea, Bali and the Seychelles. Yet the average daytime temperature is 86°F year-round. Evening temperatures drop to 76°F and there is usually a cooling breeze.

The Solomon islanders are Melanesian, a dark brown to black skinned people with generally dark curly hair, similar to the Fijians. They have a sunny disposition and regard their country as the "Happy Isles." The Solomon Islanders have always been an independent people, as this area of the Pacific was one of the last to fall under European control. Even today, the Solomons are an independent nation within the British Com-

monwealth. English is the official language, but Pidgin is spoken widely.

Although the Solomons are fairly cut off from the outside world, Air Pacific operates jet air service into Honiara twice weekly from Fiji and from Brisbane, Australia. Getting around inside the Solomons is exceptionally easy. Using Honiara as the hub, Solair flies to 24 different island airstrips with its routes radiating outward like the spokes of a wheel. The Solomon Islands are also well linked by telephone and it is easy to call a neighboring island or place a transpacific call back home. The international area code for the Solomons is 667.

Despite the primitive environment and lack of commercialism, the Solomons are well set up for diving. The excellent coral reefs, exotic marine life and bonanza of shipwrecks have attracted a number of small, but competent dive operators.

There are a total of three dive operations on Guadalcanal alone and three more on the outer islands of Gizo, Uepi and Anuha. Of all the dive operations in the Solomons, Anuha Island Resort is considered the nicest and possibly the best suited for vacationing Americans.

Directly north of Guadalcanal are the Florida Islands, a cluster of two large islands and dozens of smaller ones. They lie on the opposite side of the infamous Iron Bottom Sound. Anuha is on the north side of the largest island and is only about one-half mile offshore.

Anuha has a unique and envious position as far as diving is concerned. The little island is in the lee, fully protected from the prevailing southeast trade winds. Tiny by Solomon standards, Anuha covers 160 acres and is one mile long by one-half mile wide. The island vegetation is a lovely combination of rolling grassy hills and tropical forests in the flat areas.

Anuha's airport is a grass landing strip next to the beach. A thatch palm hut serves as the terminal. The airport is large enough to accommodate twin engine aircraft. Arriving passengers are picked up by landing barge and ferried around the island to the resort.

The climate of Anuha is balmy. Temperatures average a steady 86°F, day or night. There are periods of bright sunshine and brief rains, thus keeping the vegetation richly green and flowering. Anuha is completely ringed by fringing

MALARIA PREVENTION

The only serious health problem that exists in the Solomon Islands is malaria. This is a disease of the blood spread from one person to another by the bite of the female *Anopheles* mosquito.

Anuha Island Resort has instituted one of the best antimalaria programs in the Solomons. They spray the hotel grounds nightly, treat the freshwater lake with larvacides and conduct weekly malaria testing of all hotel employees and their families. However, these precautions cannot guarantee adequate protection from malaria.

The hotel management and the Solomon Islands government recommend you see your local physician and obtain the necessary antimalarial drugs for prevention. Chloroquine-primaquine has been the usual treatment; one a week for two weeks before departure, during your stay and for eight weeks after return. The tablets should be taken religiously on the same day each week. Also note that chloroquine-resistant *P. falciparum* malaria (CRFM) is a problem in the Solomons. The resort recommends you take both chloroquine and Fansidar (or Maloprim) for protection against both types of malaria disease, but you should carefully discuss the possible side effects with your physician.

coral reefs. Beginning just a few yards off the beach is a fabulous maze of coral structures and fascinating creatures. Much of this reef is in snorkeling depths of 5 to 15 feet.

Anuha Island Resort is one of the most delightful South Seas diving and fishing lodges. In some ways it reminded me of Small Hope Bay Lodge in the Bahamas. It is small, informal and friendly. Anuha is also what I would describe as a natural resort—in perfect harmony with the surrounding environment. The buildings blend in with tropical foliage. There are no paved roads to scar terrain—only foot paths and jungle trails. Vehicles are limited to two tractors. The dining room is open air and the rooms are cooled by ceiling fans and natural breezes.

The resort consists of a dozen or so cabins hidden among the coconut palms close to the lagoon. Each is built Melanesian style, with local woods, bamboo and thatch palm roofing. Multiple jalousie windows provide excellent cross ventilation

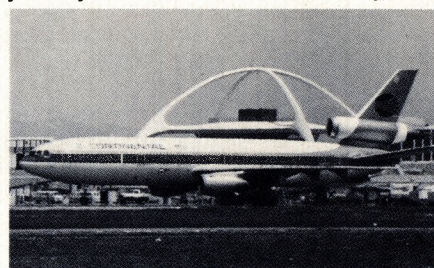
Part of the adventure of visiting Anuha Island is the air travel. Continental offers direct service from Los Angeles to Fiji (via Hawaii). Next you fly Air Pacific to Honiara on Guadalcanal. From there to Anuha Island you fly on a Solair commuter plane.



Solair Aztec



Air Pacific 737



Continental DC-10

and a ceiling fan over the bed keeps the air moving on even the stillest nights. While the windows are not screened, there is mosquito netting hung over each bed. Each cabin is furnished with a private bathroom, complete with hot and cold water, shower and flush toilet. Each cabin is furnished with mini-refrigerator and a teapot for making your own coffee or tea. There is also an ample supply of insect spray and repellent.

The central area of the resort consists of a reception area, main restaurant, cocktail bar, boutique and an outdoor dining patio. It is a small, comfortable resort with 24 rooms, capable of handling up to 50 guests.

Anuha Island Resort is the dream of Brian Ray and a group of Australian investors from the Brisbane area. The resort is managed by Toby Somerville, who is originally from England. The hotel's staff of Solomon Islanders is very friendly and eager to help. The people are genuinely interested in visitors from the U.S. and often ask the guests where they are from and what home is like.

The cuisine at Anuha Island Resort is an interesting blend of continental and Melanesian dishes. Breakfast and lunch are served buffet style. Dinner is usually

book in the shade of a palm tree.

And, for the more active person, a variety of watersports activities is available. For no extra charge, you can go Hobie Cat sailing, sailboarding, game fishing, water skiing or canoeing in a Solomon Islands outrigger. There are also tours to native villages and World War II wrecks on neighboring islands.

Also at Anuha is a separate, full service dive operation called Island Dive Services Ltd., owned and operated by Rick and Jane Belmare. They have been in business four years and Anuha is one of three dive operations they run. The other two are at the Mendana Hotel and Tamba Village Resort on Guadalcanal.

The Anuha dive center includes a 6.8 cubic foot Bauer air compressor and 14 aluminum rental tanks. Twelve of the tanks are 80s and two are the shorter 63s, which are ideal for women. The tanks are filled to 3,000 psi. More tanks are brought to the island from Guadalcanal when dive groups visit Anuha Island.

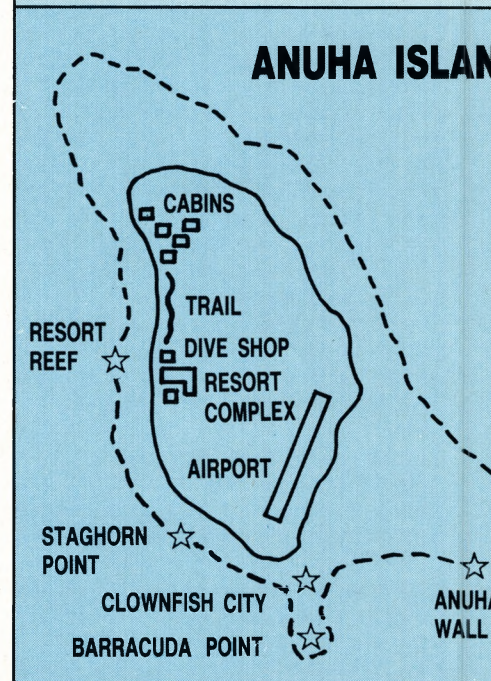
The Anuha dive center is conveniently adjacent to the resort's dining room and only 60 feet from the water. Moored directly in front of the center is a 23 foot island-built dive skiff. This speedy little craft is powered by twin 25 hp Tohatsu outboards and cruises at 18 knots. Boat rides to Anuha dive sites range from 5 to 10 minutes. The boat is deliberately designed to handle small groups and will carry up to six divers plus a crew of two. In the event of larger groups, two more identical dive boats can be brought in from Guadalcanal.

Island Dive Services has a total of five certified scuba instructors (NAUI and PADI) and they rotate among the three different resorts every three weeks or so. Our dive guide for the week was Ian Butler, a very likeable NAUI instructor from Melbourne, Australia. Ian takes a great deal of pride in running a clean, well organized operation. The service is personalized and guests never have to touch a tank, except to put it on for the dive.

The dive schedule at Anuha is fairly informal and very flexible. Morning trips depart around 9:00 am. Afternoon trips go out at 2:00 or 3:00 pm. These are usually one tank dives because the reefs are so close. Most Australian guests make two dives per day. Night dives are scheduled on request and the dive boat goes out just prior to sunset.

The coral reefs of the Solomon Islands are nothing short of incredible and Anuha is no exception. Few areas of the world offer the richness of marine life and such extravagant variety. It is this dazzling cornucopia of exotic marine creatures that motivates a diver to travel so far for spectacular U/W adventures.

What makes Anuha so very special is the water. The surface of the sea is often glassy calm, like early morning off Seven Mile Beach, Grand Cayman Island. The only difference is that it often remains this way all day.



SOLOMON ISLANDS TRAVEL FACTS	
Entry	U.S. Passport/no visa
Airport Tax	SI \$10 on arrival SI \$10 on departure
Medical	Antimalaria pills
Language	English, Pidgin, Local Dialect
Currency	Solomon Islands Dollar (SI\$). Fluctuates with Australian dollar. Approximately \$1 US = \$1.64 SI
Credit Cards	American Express at major hotels and restaurants in Honiara.
Electricity	240 volts AC/50 cycles
Area Code	International (667)
Climate	Daytime 86°F average year-round
Dress	Informal summer clothing year-round, shorts, T-shirts, lightweight clothing
Population	258,193
Capital	Honiara, Guadalcanal Island

a sit down meal at which guests are offered a selection of meat, fish or possibly chicken. The meat dishes can be pork, ham or beef. Many of the vegetable side dishes are Melanesian.

Anuha is a resort totally devoted to relaxation, privacy and tranquillity. Nobody bothers you, if that is what you want. On the other hand, there is a freshwater pool for cooling off and an adjacent bar. You can take long walks on the beach, snorkel in the shallows or simply read a good

Anuha diving can best be described as "bathtub diving." Conditions range from warm, to warmer, to warmest. During the winter months the water temperature is 82°F, during the summer it increases to 86°F! Although wetsuits are not necessary for warmth, it is always recommended that you wear a dive suit for protection against the stinging hydroids and sharp corals. A Lycra® Sports Suit or a one-eighth inch wetsuit is adequate.

The underwater visibility is variable, of-

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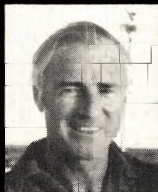
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ANUHA ISLAND RESORT

ten depending on the direction of the tides and the area being dived. Visibility can range from 60 to 100 feet. Since many dive sites are along the edge of channels between islands or reefs, an incoming tide offers the best conditions.

The best and most exciting dive sites usually have some active current. This is because the biggest gorgonian fans and the greatest concentration of fish are always found in the areas where there is the greatest flow of nutrients and food.

The very best dive site around Anuha Island is a place called Barracuda Point. This is a 300 foot long finger shaped reef that sticks out from the southeast point of the island. It is directly off the Anuha runway. The top is 5 to 15 feet deep and both sides slope off steeply on a 45 degree angle to well below 100 feet.

The top of this reef is thickly populated with a wide variety of hard corals. There are hundreds of seastars perched on every coral head and fan in the area. The slopes are decorated with a wide variety of gorgonian fans and soft corals.

The tip of the reef is often enveloped in a blizzard of fish. Thousands can be seen swarming along the top and sides of this

formation, with 30 to 40 schools of different species. The site was named after a school of 40 small Pacific barracuda that often hangs suspended at the point of the reef. There is also a school of resident batfish, approximately 60 small jacks, a resident turtle, a couple of moray eels and a banded sea snake that can be found on most every dive. On several occasions we even sighted a giant 200 pound tuna cruising here.

There is one area of Barracuda Point that is almost a special dive site within a dive site. It is called Clownfish City, and occupies the top portion of Barracuda Point, from a depth of 20 to 50 feet. This area is inhabited by an astounding number of carpet anemones in an assortment of colors, sizes and species. I would estimate 20 to 30 anemones live here. Each is inhabited by three to six clownfish. They, too, come in a variety of different colors, markings and species. I counted at least five different species on just one dive. They range in color from pale pink to blood red and from bright canary to a deep chrome yellow.

Anuha Wall is another spectacular site farther east of Barracuda Point. It takes about 10 minutes to reach by dive boat. Starting in three feet of water, this reef slopes steeply to 120 feet, but the best diving is in the upper half. The slope is absolutely loaded with gigantic gorgonian fans and black coral trees. Some of these fans are six feet tall and eight to 10

feet wide. They come in a variety of stunning colors, ranging from bright yellow to white with red branches. This site is also the home for a school of enormous bumphead wrasse, with each fish weighing 200 to 300 pounds.

Directly in front of the hotel is a delightful little area appropriately named Resort Reef. Depths range from 10 to 60 feet and the reef is loaded with corals and small fish. It is an excellent spot for novices and for macro photography. Another reef of similar nature is Staghorn Point, halfway between Barracuda Point and Resort Reef.

Sharks are seldom seen on the reefs around Anuha, but if you are looking for them, there is a place to go. Upon request, the dive guide will take guests to Shark Alley, a patch reef about one-half mile south of the island. These sharks are small to medium in size and can be photographed from a distance.

The high point of any visit to Anuha Island Resort is a one-half day trip to Sandfly Passage, a 10 mile waterway that runs between the two major islands of the Florida group. It is a longer trip, taking approximately 45 minutes by boat. It is a deep water passage with swift flowing currents and a number of coves and bays. It offers high voltage diving and awesome beauty.

Warren's Wall is a breathtaking vertical wall that starts 100 feet above the surface

(Continued on Page 106)



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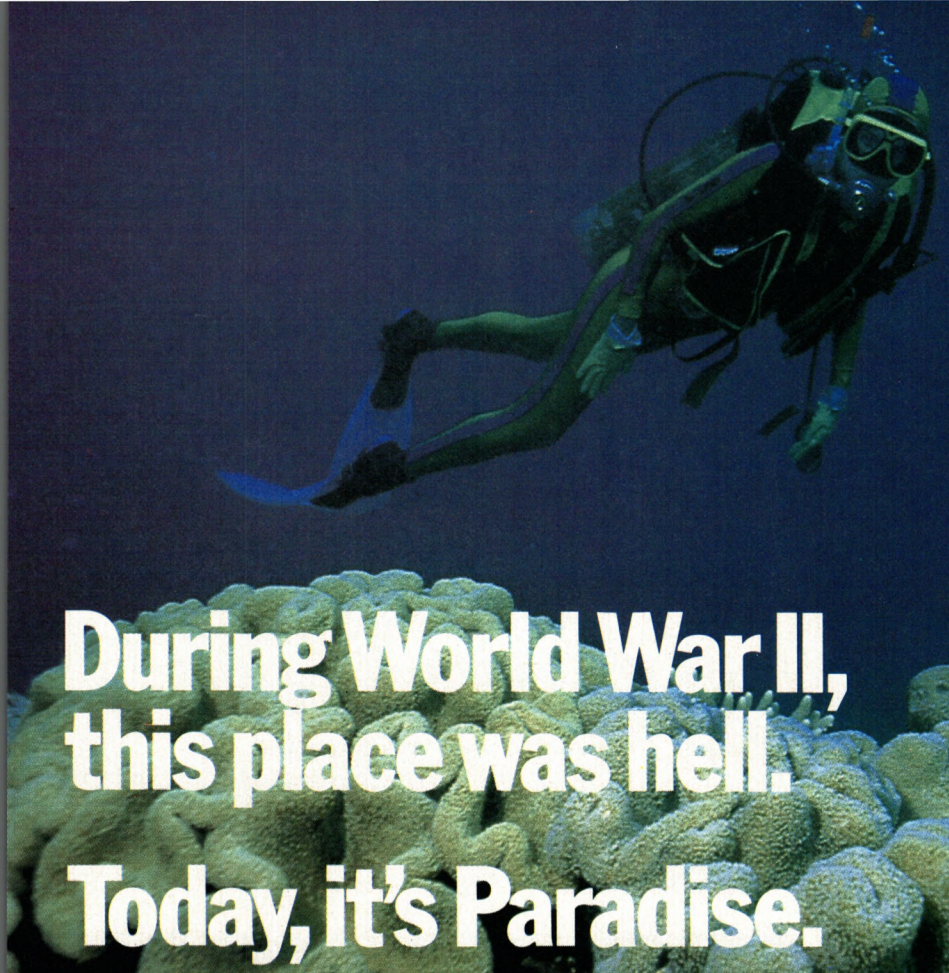
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You'll never forget Warren's Wall, a coral cliff which drops 600 feet straight down.

And you will always remember the sombre wrecks of Japanese and American battleships which found their final resting place in the waters around Anuha.

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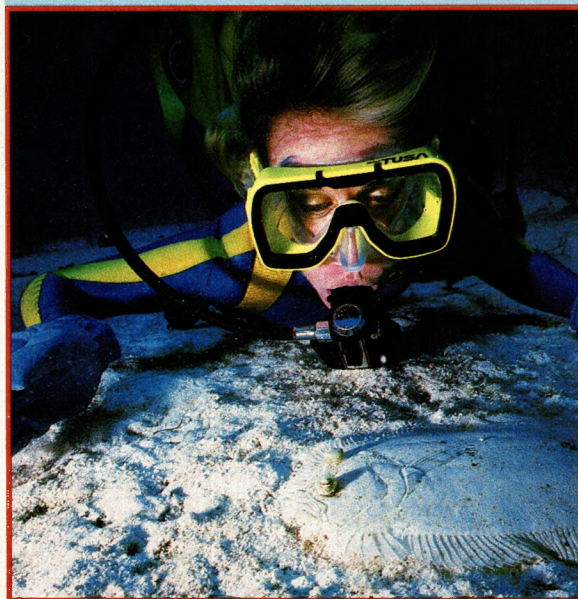
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Island Fantasy



The *Island Fantasy* combines elegance with a romantic setting. Scuba tanks are stored conveniently at the vessel's stern. Divers just seat themselves at the stern platform and the crew assists them with their tanks. U/W adventures can include Theo's Wreck or an encounter with a peacock flounder.



If you enjoy being spoiled, try the *Island Fantasy*. From its home port of Riviera Beach, Florida, the motor vessel runs to the Bahamas. Specific island destinations vary according to the passengers' requests. This excursion blends the great variety of dive sites that a live-aboard vessel can offer with the caliber of service found on a cruise ship. During the week, guests may make three or more

watch sunsets or look for falling stars later on. Since each diver has his or her own equipment bin on the sundeck, it forms the natural place for pre-dive briefings and post-dive fish stories.

Below the sundeck, on the stern, is the dive platform. Drawing from his experience with his West Palm Beach dive boats, Captain Frank made this a versatile, two-tiered platform. Guests sit on it

clude pasta primavera and seafood fettuccini. Between meals, various crackers and dips or fresh fruit are available. The chef has been known to produce some wonderful midnight snacks. Don't plan to lose weight on this cruise.

On the M/V *Island Fantasy* General Information sheet under the heading of Itinerary, there is a line that reads, "There is no fixed schedule." Although there are

First Class Bahamas Getaway

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY MARK M. LAWRENCE



Left: *Island Fantasy* captains Ed Cooke (in white) and Frank and Dee Hammett. Above: Guests gather at the *Island Fantasy*'s bar for conversation, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

dives per day without having to repeat a location or lift a tank. Between dives, the great library of video and music tapes, books, magazines, board games and windsurfers entertain the group.

Master captains Dee and Frank Hammett designed their custom-built craft so even landlubbers could enjoy ocean living. The *Island Fantasy*'s dimensions (90 feet in length with a 22 foot beam) help it cruise smoothly. Although fresh water is never used wastefully, between the ship's holding tanks and reverse osmosis units, there's ample fresh water for camera rinses and frequent seagoing showers. Each stateroom, which can sleep four, has its own fully equipped bathroom. Outlets supply 110 volt power for hairdryers or electric razors. Individual stereo volume controls and carpeted flooring add to the comfortable surroundings. In the main deck's saloon there are tables for singles or couples and booths for foursomes. Up forward, past the well-stocked bar, a 31 foot couch encircles the recreational area. On the three color television sets passengers can view favorite movies or tapes of upcoming dive sites. Audio cassettes contain selections of country, rock, classical and jazz music. Around the hatch cover table in the evenings, groups gather to play Trivial Pursuit or backgammon. Other people stretch out in the lounge and plunge into a selection from the library.

A lot happens on the upper sundeck. Serving as a general meeting place for scuba divers and sunbathers during the day, this area becomes a quiet place to

and crew members bring them their tanks. Divers then merely stand up, take one step forward and stride into the water. Exiting is just as easy. Crew members lift the divers onto the floating lower level, take off their tanks and help them up. Then the passengers head toward the stern's freshwater shower to rinse off salty heads and cameras.

Without exception, the *Island Fantasy* crew members are super. They successfully strike a balance between casual divers' camaraderie and polite service. The same staff member who gears up guests for the dusk dive might reappear in full "whites" to serve wine at dinner time. The crew members wear their whites or, when doing deck work, collared red shirts. The tropical uniforms help set the mood for evening meals. No one would voluntarily miss these. The seagoing chef labels his fare "casual elegance;" passengers call it wonderful. Dinners range from homemade lasagne to medallions of beef in wine. Other entrees include chicken tarragon and fresh seafood. Salads and homemade desserts accompany the main courses. The buffet-style lunch usually includes a soup, such as minestrone or chicken, and sausage with vegetables, along with assorted cold cuts and salads. Breakfasts run from fresh fruits and Danish to made-to-order eggs Benedict or French toast. Prior to the departure date, preferably when booking the charter, individuals with specific dietary requirements should advise the *Island Fantasy* staff. Then the chef can prepare their meals specially. Vegetarian delights in-

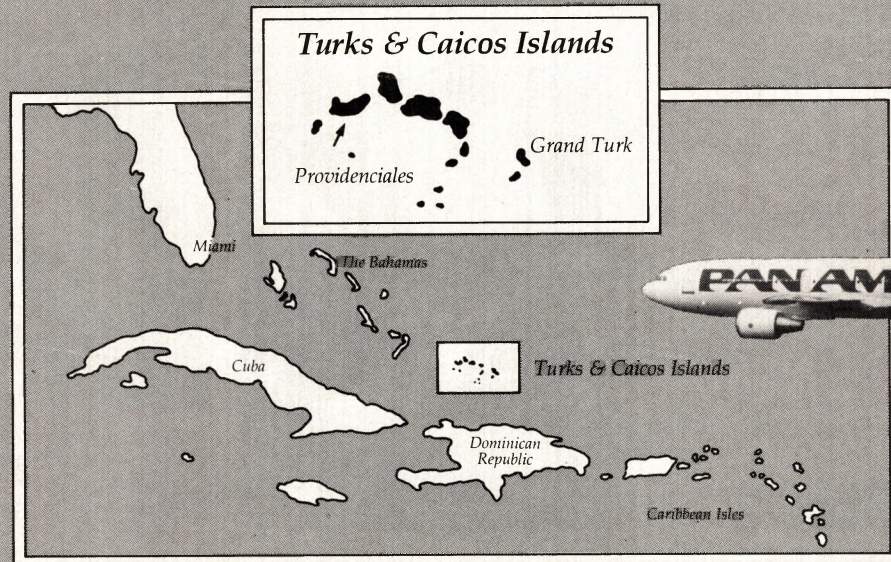
several suggested programs, Captains Frank Hammett and Ed Cooke show a genuine interest in taking their guests where they want to go. Some groups decide to anchor out at night. Others enjoy tying up at West End's Jack Tar Village or Freeport's Xanadu Beach Hotel. Xanadu, for instance, has two nightclubs featuring live entertainment and dancing. If the passengers choose to visit the casino and see the floor show, the *Island Fantasy* will serve dinner earlier. Those visitors who like a more tranquil environment find Xanadu's white sand beach a calm retreat for a walk or swim. Some groups opt for shopping in the island markets and duty-free stores. Flexibility and variety are also the keys to dive destination planning. Captain Frank tries to show people as many reefs as possible. As he put it, "By visiting several different sites each day, odds are that everyone will find something special every day." His approach works.

By the day's end, the experienced divers, as well as the novices, the underwater photographers and the sightseers, are all enthusiastically describing their adventures. On the shallow Sugar Wreck, photographers discover many photo possibilities. Pairs of queen, French and gray angels cruise the site. Grunts school around the twisted wreckage. Safe beneath the rusty old plating, lobster stare back at the scuba divers. Corals encrust the scattered machinery and anchor debris. For the patient macrophotographers, the featherduster colonies and

(Continued on Page 102)

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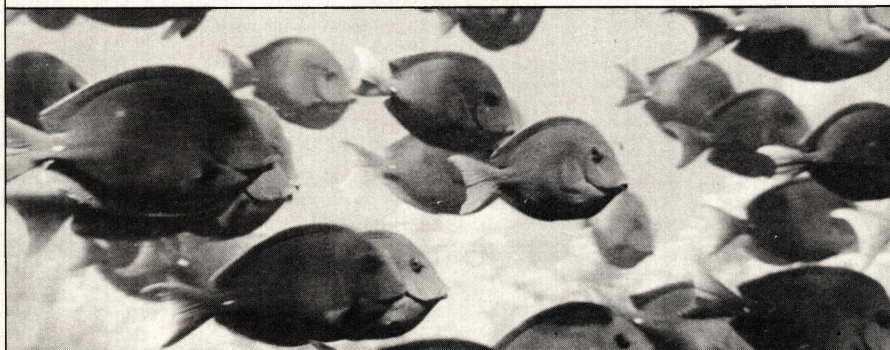


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ISLAND FANTASY

(Continued from Page 99)

flamingo tongues provide excellent subjects. Dusk divers can watch stingrays glide in for a night's rest. Large sea turtles and nurse sharks often nap here too. The Sugar Wreck has wild night life. With a gentle hand, divers can touch sleeping parrot and hogfish. Near the pipes and plating drift drowsy angels and burrfish. Observant divers can catch glimpses of spotted morays in the shadows. The average depth here is 20 feet. Those who prefer deeper wreck dives should go to Theo's Wreck. Even though it lies on its side, its massive hulk rises more than 50 feet off the sand. The highest point reaches to within 65 feet of the surface. Divers can survey most of the wreck without breaking 10 feet. Snappers hang in the empty hatches. Schools of goatfish cling to the freighter's rails and deck. Swift horse-eye jacks patrol the outside. Captain Frank maintains a friendly watch also. He often tows passengers on the grand tour with his Tekna scooter.

Frank takes the *Island Fantasy* to several excellent reefs. In the moderate depths of Dee's Reef, divers can observe many kinds of marine life close-up. Even normally shy peacock flounder appear trusting. Bicolor damselfish rise off their coral heads. Mixed schools of fish hover among Treasure Reef's elkhorn stands. Banded tulips and other mollusks crawl across the sand channels. Snorkelers particularly enjoy this shallow site.

Bahamian waters have both beautiful reefs and intriguing blue holes. Within many of these submarine caverns, tidal movements vary the currents' direction. Consequently, the *Island Fantasy* visits the large holes during periods of outward flow. At each site the staff rigs lines into the rooms and a crew member remains in the main chamber. The White Hole is an unusual exception. Not only is this site shallower and smaller than most, it also has only one tunnel leading to deeper waters. One staff member can prevent inattentive divers from penetrating too deep. During periods of inflow at the entrance, guests watch bubbles travel back down into the cavern. The white growth covering the walls brightens the chamber. Peering into the cracks on the sides, divers may spot flame scallops. Blue tangs gather along the convoluted walls. When viewed from across the room, one sloping wall resembles the face of some giant white stone carving.

The *Island Fantasy* visits the infamous Zoo Hole only during outflow. Even under optimum conditions, by running in extra lines and having staff divers guarding the deeper recesses, the crew maintains its attention to safety. Throughout the trip the staff helps guests track their position on

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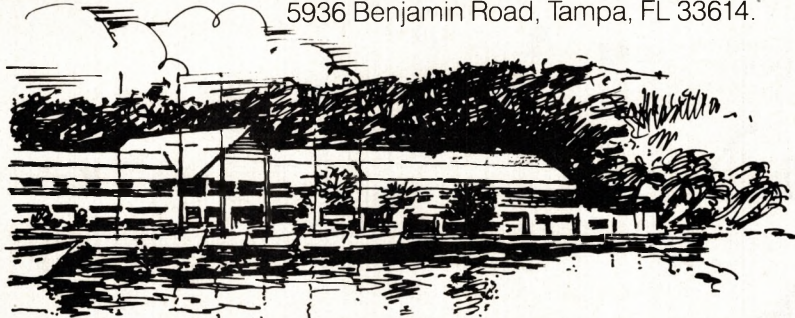
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ISLAND FANTASY

the dive tables and plan for upcoming events. While reef diving, crew members offer to serve as guides but experienced divers are allowed to explore on their own if they choose.

After the late afternoon boarding on Sunday, the *Island Fantasy* experience begins with dinner, an introduction to the crew and an orientation to the ship. Afterward passengers relax, mingle and eventually retire for the remainder of the crossing. While the guests sleep, captain Ed Cooke quietly pilots the ship across the Gulf Stream. Passengers awake to breakfast in the Bahamas. After clearing Customs and Immigration, the *Island Fantasy* sails off to the first dive site. Returning is just as painless. Following dinner and, for those who want it, the last night dive, the ship heads back to the mainland. Once again, while the passengers sleep, the vessel crosses international waters. This provides two benefits. The vacationers don't lose any valuable dive time. In a subtler sense, it also allows the travelers quiet time to leave the worries of their stateside business behind.

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For more information contact: Island Fantasy Cruises, 301 East Blue Heron Blvd., Riviera Beach, FL 33404; (800) 848-7632. In Florida call (305) 848-7632.

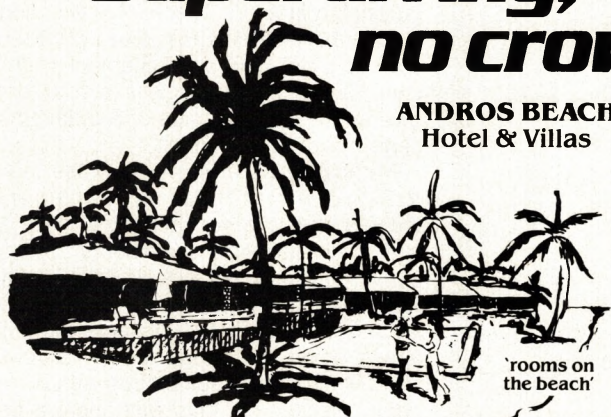
BOB SOTO'S DIVING

Bob Soto's Diving, Ltd. will be holding the line on prices throughout 1987. "Rack Rate" prices for diving, snorkeling, open water certification and other activities will remain frozen at present levels until at least December 15, 1987. The last time Bob Soto's prices were increased was in 1983.

Ron Kipp, president and general manager of Soto's, pointed out that the Holiday Inn Guaranteed Dive package for 1986 was in its fourth year and has not had an increase in price for two years. The Bonus Dive package with the Cayman Islander Hotel and Grand Escape package with the Grand Pavilion Hotel reflect similar economies, he said.

For more information on Bob Soto's Diving, or specific packages, write: Bob Soto's Diving, Ltd., P.O. Box 1801, Grand Cayman, BWI.

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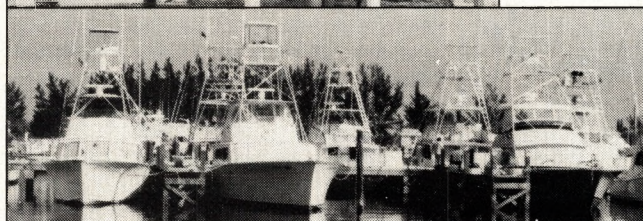
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ANUHA ISLAND RESORT

(Continued from Page 96)

and actually undercuts as it continues downward beyond the 120 foot level. The gorgonian fans are absolutely sensational and the thrill of a fast moving current adds a great deal of excitement to this dive. Distress Express is a similar drift dive on the opposite side of Sandfly Passage from Warren's Wall.

Nambawan Reef is possibly the most thrilling dive in all of Sandfly Passage and the place where you are most likely to see large pelagics and sharks. Strong converging currents sweep through this area and dive guests simply hang onto bottom formations and observe the wild action going on around them. Taliapoto Point is another beautiful drop-off just recently discovered. This wall offers a tremendous variety of colorful corals. Additional Sandfly Passage dive sites include Niumara Wall and Coral Gardens.

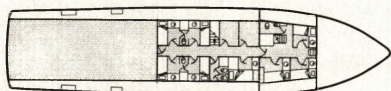
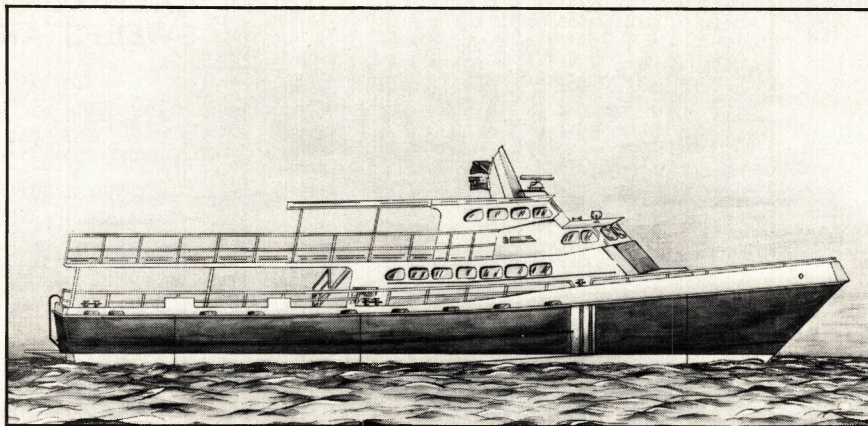
For those interested in diving some of the many wrecks off Guadalcanal, the manager of Anuha Island Resort can arrange an excursion flight to the big island. Solair will pick up divers at Anuha at 7:00 am, fly to Honiara and return the guests by late afternoon. The plane flies at an altitude of less than 1,000 feet, thus avoiding decompression problems. Since the flight is so short, the charter cost is reasonable.

Island Dive Services' headquarters is at the Mendana Hotel, close to the center of town. Rick Belmare offers a wide variety of WW II wreck diving experiences including: several Japanese troop transports, a B-17 bomber, a Japanese submarine, an F4F Wildcat fighter and a U.S. troop ship.

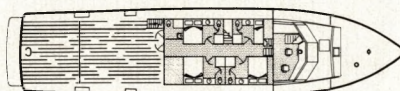
Diving the shipwrecks of Guadalcanal is like stepping back through the pages of history. It is a unique and emotional experience since the wrecks represent profound losses for both sides. Yet these are much more than dusty tombs. They are living memorials covered with a splendid array of soft corals, gorgonian fans and marine life of every description.

The Solomon Islands is a world unto itself, undisturbed and nearly virgin. On most outer islands Melanesian culture is still intact. On Guadalcanal, the evidence of WW II is strongly visible.

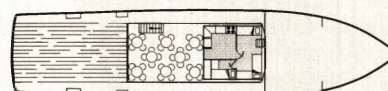
For more information, contact: Brian Ray, Anuha Island Resort Pty. Ltd., 123 Charlotte Street, Brisbane, Queensland 4000, Australia; telephone (07) 229-1717. You can also contact: Rick and Jane Belmare, Island Dive Services Ltd., P.O. Box 414, Honiara, Solomon Islands, South Pacific—telex HQ66315; telephone Solomon Islands 2-2103. See & Sea Travel Service, Inc., 50 Francisco St., Suite 205, San Francisco, CA 94133 (telephone (415) 434-3400), also runs trips to Anuha.



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CALYPSO CHALLENGE SWEEPSTAKES

The Calypso Challenge Sweepstakes drawing was held recently by U.S. Divers at the Cousteau Society in Los Angeles, California. Dominic Sumian, expedition leader for the Cousteau team, drew the



photo/Bonnie J. Cardone

winning diver from thousands of entries, with assistance from Bill Gleason, SKIN DIVER Magazine editor-publisher.

Calvin Lindsay, a certified diver for 12 years, was the grand prize winner of \$5,000. He took the Calypso Challenge at Ocean Enterprises, a San Diego, California dealership. U.S. Divers "challenged" divers to try the Calypso BC, which certainly convinced Lindsay, who purchased the Calypso after taking the challenge.

ABINGTON SUB-MARINERS

The Abington Sub-Mariners Skin and Scuba Diving Club, one of the East Coast's oldest diving clubs, is celebrating its 30th anniversary. Since 1956, the organization has grown to more than 80 members. Club activities include weekly meetings, New Jersey wreck diving, educational programs (spearfishing, underwater photography, lobster workshop), social events, an annual banquet and trips to Caribbean Islands.

For information contact The Abington Sub-Mariners c/o Linda VanOcker, Secretary, 506 Burton Road, Oreland, PA 19075.

DUMAS PHOTO COMPETITION

The Confederation Mondiale des Activités Subaquatiques (CMAS—the World Underwater Federation) is sponsoring an underwater photography competition, entitled the Jacques Dumas Trophy, in remembrance of this pioneer of the oceans. Open to photographers around the world, the competition will be held every two years. The winner will receive \$1,000 and the trophy. The top ten photographers will receive CMAS medals.

The deadline for entries in this year's competition is December 31. The Jacques Dumas Trophy will be awarded at the CMAS general assembly in Egypt in March 1987. For more information contact: CMAS—Jacques Dumas Trophy, 34 Rue du Colisee, 75008 Paris, France.

NAUI COLLEGE

NAUI College has added stops for its Extension ITC (Instructor Training Course) in Texas and in Rome, Italy. Other courses will be held in Korea; Cozumel; Boulder, CO; the Bahamas; Cayman; and Cypress, CA.

NAUI College has recently released a new catalogue containing the 1986-87 schedules.

An audio cassette is now available that contains answers to some of the questions commonly asked by prospective students about NAUI College. The tape can be ordered for \$1 from the college.

For information contact NAUI College, 27402 Camino Capistrano, Suite 103, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677; (714) 582-0186. 

SEATEC BC DETONATORS

Recently, there has been a recall of buoyancy compensators equipped with CO₂ detonators known as Roberts Valves. Seatec has not used Roberts Valves on any buoyancy compensator since 1974. Seatec BCs are equipped with D-200 Detonators, utilizing solid stainless steel firing pins, which have proven dependable. 

DRI-FLEX MOVES

Dri-Flex Industries, Inc. has moved to a new location encompassing more than 10,000 square feet of production area.

Two new members of the Dri-Flex team are Darren Gilbert—marketing manager and Dale Higgins—systems analyst, product research and development.

The new Dri-Flex address and telephone numbers are: Dri-Flex Industries, Inc., 34202 Johnson Landing Rd., Scappoose, OR 97056; (503) 543-5151 inside Oregon or (800) 826-1664 outside Oregon. 

SHERWOOD SOUTH

Effective January 1, 1987 Selpac Southeast, distributors of Sherwood Scuba products, will change its name to Sherwood South. Selpac Southeast (Sherwood South) is in Atlanta, Georgia and services the entire Southeastern United States, Caribbean Islands, Central and South America. 

CYLINDER INSPECTIONS

Professional Scuba Inspection (PSI) has several Visual Cylinder Inspection (VCI) courses scheduled for next year: Las Vegas, NV—January 21; Los Angeles, CA—February 14; Laguna Niguel, CA—February 15; Boston, MA—February 28; Denver, CO—April; Los Angeles—August 16; Laguna Niguel—August 17. Demand is being assessed for courses in Tuscon, AZ; Santa Fe, NM; Chicago, IL; the Cayman Islands; Florida Keys and Washington, D.C.

For the most up to date schedule contact PSI, 6531 NE 198 St., Seattle, WA 98155; (206) 486-2252. 

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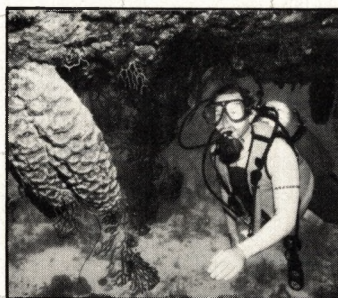
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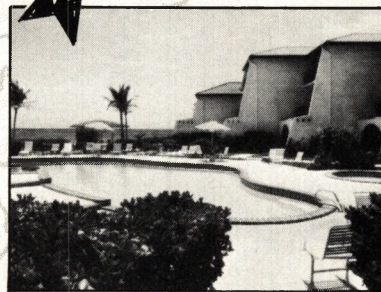


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CO NEEDS DIVERS

Certified inspectors and repair and maintenance personnel are needed to work on gas and petroleum transmission lines that stretch from offshore platforms, ports and refineries to the central parts of the United States. Positions are currently available with many major contractors across the U.S. according to the College of Oceaneering, Wilmington, CA.

The personnel most needed are divers certified in nondestructive testing (NDT) and qualified to do magnetic particle inspection and ultrasonic testing. Certified diver/welders are also in demand.

Additionally, increased public concerns about inland water pollution as well as the high standards of insurance companies and government agencies for the safety of offshore workers have raised the demand for qualified, trained inspection divers. To meet the need, the College of Oceaneering is conducting special classes. These courses will be offered in November and December.

The College of Oceaneering is the only diving school in the United States to have received both the approval for training and the required authorization to give exams for the inspection certification approved by Certification Scheme for Weldment Inspection Personnel (CSWIP) and Lloyds of London. These certifications allow divers trained at the college to work worldwide.

DAN TREASURE HUNT

More than 125 divers recently participated in an underwater treasure hunt and raised \$1,600 to benefit the Divers Alert Network (DAN). At the fundraiser, held at Dutch Springs Quarry near Allentown, PA, divers competed for dive trips, equipment and clothing. Divers and nondivers were eligible for a raffle, in which two Caribbean trips and the few unclaimed prizes were given away.

This was the second year for the treasure hunt at Dutch Springs and response was even greater than last year. Both years the event was organized by Robert Burns, a NAUI instructor.

Dane and Barbara Nilanovic, of Brooklyn, NY, won a trip for two to Bonaire's Flamingo Beach Hotel, while Alan Olshewski, of Richlandtown, PA, won a week at Cap'n Don's Habitat on that same island.

In the hour-long hunt, divers searched for submerged miniature dive flags marked with numbers. These were exchanged for prizes at the end of the hunt. The activity was confined to a small area of the quarry, where a two-seater airplane sits atop a submerged "island," which reaches nearly to the surface.

A casual "decompression party" at the quarry followed the awards.

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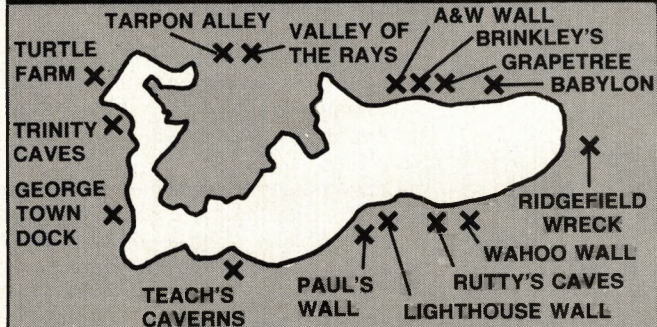


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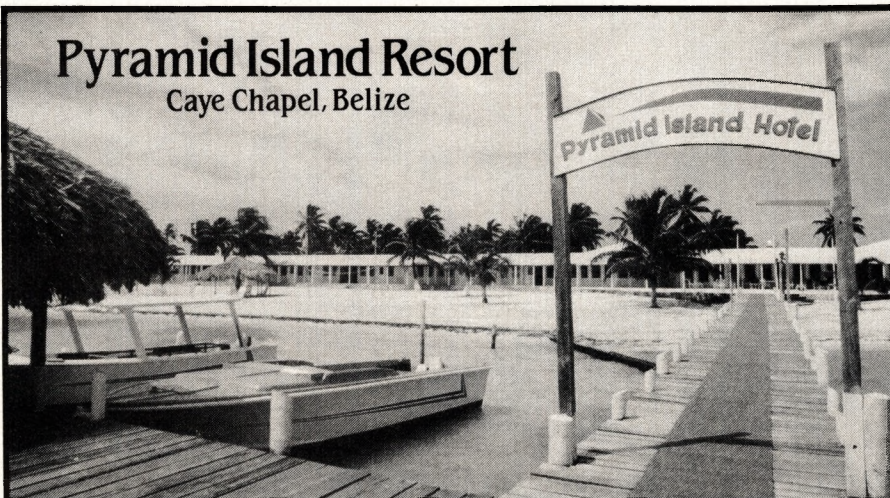
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GUARASCIO/NAUI

Nancy Guarascio has been elected president of the National Association of Underwater Instructors at the annual board of directors meeting. Guarascio is serving the second year of a four year term as a director. Before being elected to the board, she served five years as



Mid-Pacific branch manager. For the past year she has been chairman of NAUI's Strategic Planning Committee.

An instructor since 1978, Guarascio has taught all levels of courses, from basic through instructor, in a variety of settings. She has traveled throughout the world as a dive tour leader. She is presently employed as creative director for Institutional Financing Services (IFS) in Benicia, CA. 🌿

DIVE VACATION IS PHOTO CONTEST GRAND PRIZE

A week long dive vacation at Spanish Cove Resort on Grand Cayman awaits the grand prize winner in the 1987 Beneath the Sea underwater photo competition. The prize includes accommodations and diving for two as well as air fare from Miami, courtesy Cayman Airways.

The contest is open to diver/photographers in the Northeast and will feature many other awards and prizes, including items of equipment from major manufacturers. Slides may be entered in several categories, including ones of interest to divers in northern fresh or saltwater.

Winners of the contest will be honored at the Saturday evening film festival of the 11th annual Greater New York Underwater Exposition, March 6-8, 1987 in New York City.

Closing date for contest entries is January 15, 1987. For a copy of the rules and entry blank, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: R.A. Jacobson, 305 E. 86th St. (2T), New York, New York 10028. 🌿

IMPERIAL/PARKWAY

Imperial has moved its manufacturing and administrative offices from Bremer-ton, Washington, to the South Amboy, New Jersey, headquarters of its parent company, Parkway Fabricators, Inc., Parkway, a Great American Industries

Company, recently purchased Imperial.

"Consolidation of our manufacturing operations will increase cost efficiency and strengthen our product development capabilities as we combine the best technologies of both companies," said Frank Sanger, president of Parkway/Imperial. "We will continue to produce fishing waders, survival suits, diving exposure-wear and other equipment with little, if any, lag in delivery. And, we're looking forward to providing customers with the same top-notch service they have come to know and appreciate."

For information about Parkway and Imperial products and services, contact: Parkway/Imperial, 241 Raritan Street, South Amboy, NJ 08877; (800) 4-PARKWAY; in New Jersey (201) 721-5300. ✕

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PC Fuel Co. is now offering Computer Diver's Log, a program that lets you log a minimum of 132 dives to more than 660 dives on one single-sided/single-density floppy disk. Even greater capacity is available on higher density disk systems. Capabilities include: automatic search of log disk for dives by location name; review all or any part of log by dive number; thumb-through function that finds dive site names with associated numbers; printout of all or any part of the log, as many times as you want; hardcopy print-outs are automatically personalized with your name and address; dive log files can be transmitted over phone lines via modem, using most terminal programs. The program is also useful for reports, resumes, etc. and is written to be easy to use and as self-explanatory as possible. It automatically formats disks. The menu driven program lets you operate it at the push of a key.

The Computer Diver's Log is available for all Commodore 64 computers and available soon for Apple II series computers. Contact PC Fuel Co., P.O. Box 3294, San Mateo, CA 94403-0294. ✕

PADI 1000TH TRAINING FACILITY

The number of active, sanctioned PADI Training Facilities has passed 1,000. Five stores, whose applications were processed at the same time, share the distinction of being PADI's 1000th dive store member. They are: The Dive Site of Homewood, Alabama; Southeastern Divers of Huntsville, Alabama; San Carlos Sea Sports of Guaymas, Mexico; Ocean Activities Center of Maui; and Submariner GmbH of Darmstadt, West Germany.

Two hundred member stores have met the requirements for the prestigious Five Star Training Facility rating. The 200th Five Star facility was Martini Scuba of New York City.

PADI diver training is currently available in more than 80 countries worldwide. This year PADI expects to issue 300,000 diver certifications. ✕

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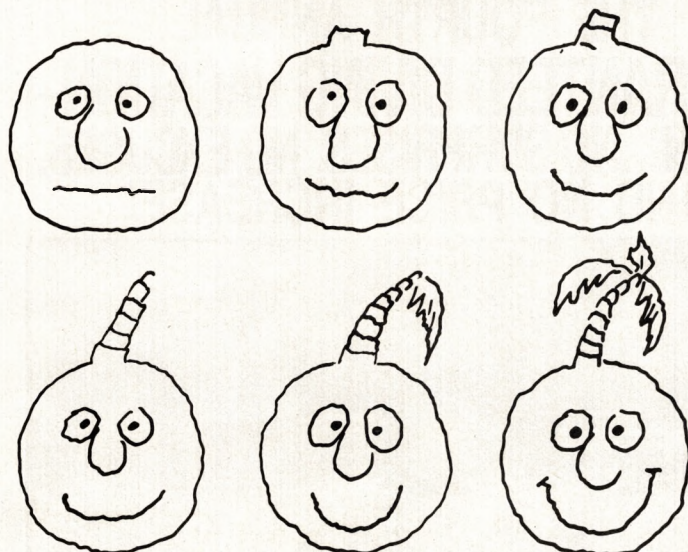
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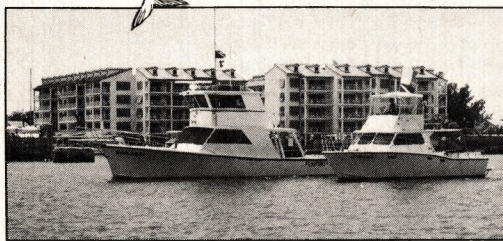
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UNDERWATER LOGGING

(Continued from Page 81)

The section of the river Ben works is a stone's throw from the old Sullivan mill site. It is a prime location for his enterprise because the river was completely covered with logs, from shore to shore, when the paper company ran its drives.

"In order to appreciate what's going on now, you have to understand the mechanisms of the old logging business," he explained. "The logs would be stopped here, while lumberjacks hopped back and forth across the floating timber. If they could see a chain of logs from one side of the river to the other, they'd run right across. Using simple tools—pike pole and peavy—the lumberjacks would sort the logs by size and type and hoist them from the river.

Nearing the dive site, we found the end of one log sticking up in the middle of the river and tied the boat to it. It was a dead-head. One end had started to rot and it became buoyant from the decomposition gases. By cutting three or four feet off the end, the log would be salvageable.

Each log has a value depending on what type of wood it is. Some of the unusual species, such as rock maple, Ben doesn't bother with: Rock maple is heavy, hard to handle and rare. It's more cost effective to have a lot of the same type of wood instead of bits and pieces of different kinds. White pine yields the highest price, but most of the logs are hemlock or Norway pine. These become waterlogged and sink the fastest. Ben found an 80 foot log that's straight enough to cut an eight by eight inch beam from the whole length. It's two and one-half feet wide on the big end! He hasn't been able to get it out of the water yet, but he hopes it's pine.

These old, wide boards are rare in contemporary logging because trees don't grow that big anymore before they're cut. In the early 1800s there was one documented account in Maine of a white pine that grew to 146 feet and had a diameter at its base of five and one-half feet! Within the last 50 years people have run across large logs in the river with the 17th century King's broad arrow carved into them, indicating the King of England owned the log and you would be killed if found in possession of it. Most of the King's timber was destined to be used to build masts for British navy ships. The State of Maine was considered a mast farm by British royalty and was the birthplace of logging, the first industry in the United States. Ben hasn't found any of these old timers yet. Most of his logs were cut since 1900—they show bucksaw cuts and not 18th century ax marks. The log we tied the boat onto was 14 inch wide hemlock and probably sank 60-80 years ago.

The underwater logs are preserved and will not deteriorate. There are four requirements in the process of wood decomposition: 1) The presence of wood decaying fungi, 2) Sufficient moisture, 3) Air and 4) Favorable temperatures. On the river bottom there is little air and the temperature rarely gets to the 70-90°F needed for fungal growth. Some wood companies store their lumber underwater to prevent decay! The only visible effect on the lumber is its slightly darker color, which almost looks like a stain.

Over the last few days heavy rains had washed sediment into the river and there was only six inches of visibility. I decided to stay on the boat because I was unfamiliar with the river and underwater logging techniques. Ben was confident, he had done this many times in good visibility and knew he could feel his way along. "Before I started all this, I made sure my health insurance would cover any accidents," he cautioned me. "It's dangerous down there with strong currents to swim against and all those big logs shifting around. A diver could get his hand or finger pulverized if the ends of two 1,000 pound logs smashed together at the wrong time."

Donning his diving gear, Ben took hold of several buoys and lines and over the side of the boat he went, quickly disappearing into the black-red water with only a trail of bubbles indicating his where-

abouts. He groped along the bottom like a blind man until he found a log to tie the line and buoy to. The buoys began popping up quickly and before 20 minutes had passed he had tagged four logs. He surfaced, climbed back into the boat and we began hauling up the lines. When each log surfaced, we'd tie inner tubes to the ends and send it floating down the river to Ben's hauling site.

This river is radically different from non-logging rivers. Sunken logs have a detrimental effect on a river and its inhabitants. They are navigational hazards. Ben and I nearly tore the propeller off his boat twice when we grazed a few. They also interfere with salmon spawning by taking up space on the river bed and rolling around on eggs already laid. Finally, the decaying bark puts a tremendous biological oxygen demand (BOD) on the chemistry and health of the river. About 20 percent of the bark is still on the logs. By removing them, Ben's efforts should help speed the recovery of the river.

The four logs Ben and I salvaged would hardly have bought us dinner that night. Each one was worth only \$5-\$10. But, the potential for this business is large and obvious. Ben hopes to be harvesting 20-50 logs per day when he is in full production. It takes awhile to develop the recovery methodology and it is not easy to get started. He needed permits from seven agencies including the Army Corp of

Engineers, the paper company, the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Land Reclamation Commission, and the town of Whitneyville. The Machias is a Class A Scenic and Wild River and is well protected by regulations.

As we drifted down the river, shepherding our four logs along, I was impressed by how beautiful and delicate the river seemed. There was no house in sight; only our logs, Ben's dog swimming next to us, and the vegetation of the river bank spreading up to the forest. It was hard to believe that beneath this calm veneer lie thousands of old logs. 

Logging in Maine began during the 17th century and continues today. Although logs are now transported primarily on trucks, there have been millions of logs and trillions of board feet floated down the Machias and other rivers in the state. The recovery of sunken logs has been done by other entrepreneurs in rivers and lakes in Maine and in other states throughout the U.S. This unusual technique is described in Underwater Logging by John E. Cayford and Ronald E. Scott. Other books on the colorful and interesting history of logging in Maine include, A History of Lumbering in Maine, 1800-1860 by Richard G. Wood, A History of Lumbering in Maine, 1860-1960 by David C. Smith, and Tall Trees and Tough Men by Robert E. Pike.

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MY FIRST PORTHOLE

BY GEORGE P. SHARRARD

If only I could have gotten pictures, you would have to believe me. But a 70 foot dive in Long Island Sound is like a night dive in a cup of day old coffee. So, you will just have to take my word that the brave deeds related in this story are accurate and unembellished.

I think we were diving the wreck of the *Condor*, a turn of the century tugboat, right off the coast of Darien, Connecticut. I can only speculate, as her stern has settled into the mud and there is no way to get a good look at the shape of the wreck in one foot visibility. For sure it's a tugboat—I think.

My dive partners, Bob and Richy, had visited the *Condor* previous to my dive and briefed me on what to expect. "If it's red, you've hit the deck. If it's black, you've hit a wall." Armed with this information and my tool bag, I did a back roll off the side of Richy's boat. Surprisingly, the water was warm and clear. At least six feet of visibility. I started my descent.

At 20 feet it was totally dark and I switched on my light. At 60 feet I had a major collision. Looking closely I saw red: I was on the deck. I spent the remainder of my dive swimming back and forth trying to get the feel of how the *Condor* was sitting. I got lucky and found a fair size lobster in a tire tied to the bow.

Back on board we traded information. On previous dives both Bob and Richy had recovered portholes from this wreck. With the easy ones gone we discussed where we had seen others. When our gear was secured we headed for home.

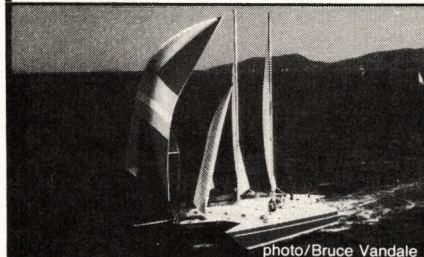
On the next trip I was sure I knew just where to go to find my porthole. We hooked the wreck. I suited up, did my back roll into the water, descended quickly and had a major collision. It was red and I was lost. We hooked the wreck in a different spot and it took me ten minutes to figure out where I was. Finally, I bumped into the tire on the bow, got a second lobster and began my search. My 40 minutes were up before I found anything, but Bob was working a porthole to the anchorline. He had found it in the head, next to the shower.

On my third trip to the *Condor*, Bob and Richy took pity on me. (They each had two or three portholes by then.) On their last trip they had seen what they thought was a porthole in the bunkroom. No one goes in there because it is filled with mud and half floating, rotting mattresses. There is even an odor you can smell right

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photo/Bruce Vandale

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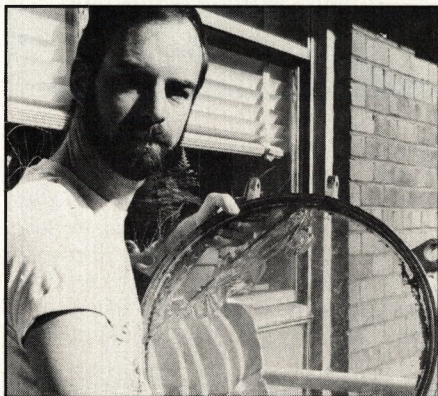
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through your mask. But, maybe, there was also a porthole and they were willing to give me first shot at it.

After a quick descent, I found my way to the bunkroom. Following Richy's directions I secured my line and swam ever so carefully so as not to stir up the silt. Sure enough, over the top bunk, there was a porthole. It looked huge, at least 16 inches across. I set my tool bag down on the bunk. This was the first of three mistakes. A huge cloud of darkness overcame my dive light. I had forgotten about the rotting mattress. The weight of my tool bag produced a cloud of silt. From that point on I saw nothing.

Working by feel I secured the dogs and felt for the hinge pin. Using vise grips and a box wrench I worked the nut off one end of the pin and gently tapped the pin



out of the hinge. Then I backed off the three dogs and felt the porthole fall free of the frame—mistake two. An incredible smell erupted when my porthole hit the rotting mattress. If ever there was an exit cue, that was it. My tools went into my bag and my bag was clipped to my weightbelt. It was time to get away from that smell.

Ever so carefully, I moved my porthole to the edge of the bunk, made sure of my grip and gave a good pull. That was my third mistake. The weight of the porthole pulled me forward and down. My face was buried in the mattress, which floated up surrounding my head. Now I could *taste* the smell! Refusing to relinquish my grip on the porthole, I worked my way free of the mattress and started the long process of moving my porthole to the anchor line.

Richy saw me emerge from the cloud of silt that now filled the bunkroom and tied a line to my porthole. With my dive timer pointing at 40, we began our ascent. Richy tied my porthole to the boat while I began trying to scrub the smell off my wetsuit. (It took a good washing with soap and hot water to get rid of the odor.)

Today, my porthole is cleaned and lightly polished. I try to remember what it looked like when I first saw it and how I recovered it. But, truthfully, all I really remember is the smell of that mattress as it wrapped around my head.

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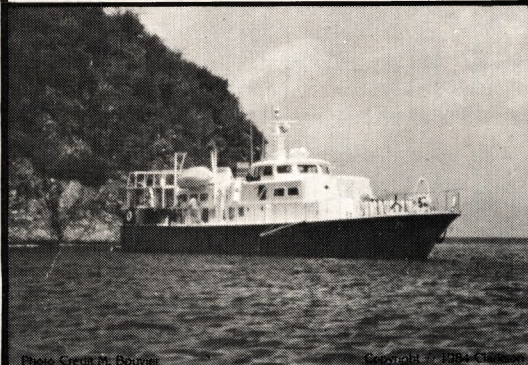


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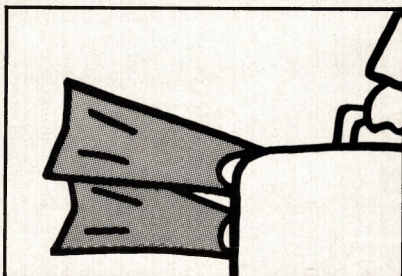
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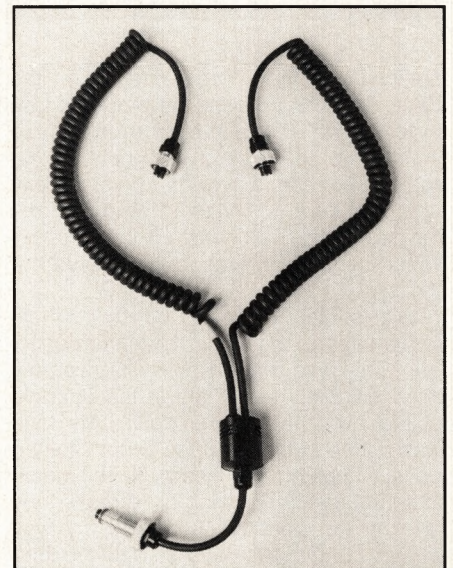
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IKELITE'S DUAL TTL SYNC CORD A Unique Connector For Dual Flash

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY GERI MURPHY

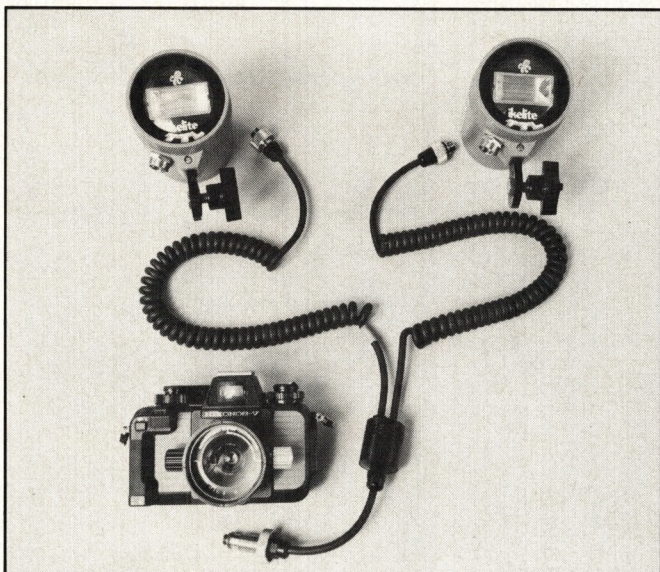
Ikelite is now offering a dual Nikonos sync cord for universal application. It will work with any combination of Ikelite strobes in either TTL automatic or manual flash mode. This is the ideal accessory for the advanced underwater photographer interested in multiple flash lighting. The cord offers the advantage of guaran-



teed firing of two strobes on every shot regardless of the distance between them or the direction in which they are pointed.

The dual sync cord is basically two, six foot long Ikelite coil cords that have been joined together in a small aluminum housing. On the opposite side of the housing is a single, six inch long Nikonos connector cord.

The dual cords are wired in such a way that one of the two strobes can be switched off underwater at any time and still allow the other strobe to fire. The circuit that can be shut down is marked by



One branch of the dual cord is marked with a red band (near the bottom of the coil). This circuit can be shut down and the other strobe will continue to operate. The sync cord is easily detachable, so either strobe can be hooked up to the primary circuit.

a red band on the sync cord.

Both sync cords carry the new, five wire TTL sync cable that allows dedicated automatic flash with the Nikonos V. The Ikelite dual sync cord can be used in either TTL or manual flash mode with this camera. It can be used in manual flash mode only with the Nikonos III and IV.

The dual sync cord allows the use of

seven Ikelite strobes in a variety of different combinations. For example, the cord can connect to identical strobes such as two Substrobes MVs. It can also be used to connect two different sized strobes such as a Substrobe 150 and a Substrobe MV.

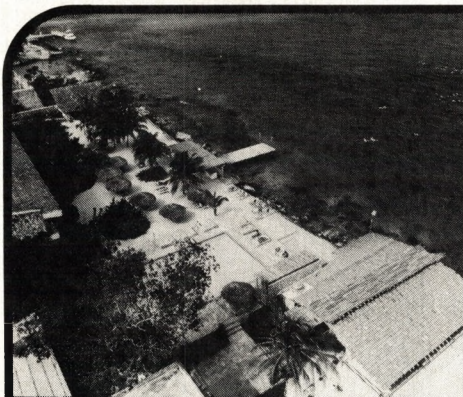
Using the Ikelite dual sync cord, U/W photographers can add a great deal



Ikelite's Dual TTL Sync Cord for the Nikonos V underwater camera will operate two Ikelite strobes (of same or different size) in either TTL automatic or manual flash mode. This frees the photographer from concern about triggering a slave strobe.

more light to their pictures and greatly expand their creative lighting capabilities.

Listed as the Nikonos Dual TTL Sync Cord (Catalogue #4104.52), it sells for \$99.99. For more information, see your local retail dive store or contact: Ikelite Underwater Systems, 50 West 33rd Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208 or telephone: (317) 923-4523.



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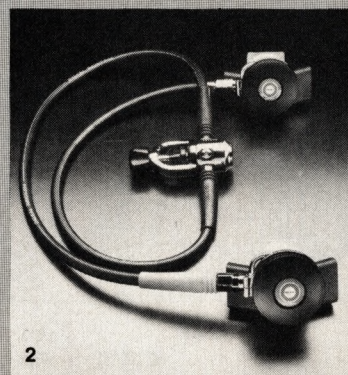
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WHAT'S NEW FOR '86

The products listed in What's New are those that the editors feel are of interest to readers. All specifications and claims are supplied by the manufacturers or sellers, who bear responsibility for their accuracy. It is impossible for SKIN DIVER to obtain samples of all products listed for evaluation and verification of manufacturers' claims. The listing is provided as a free service and vendors of U/W equipment are invited to submit information and black and white photos for consideration.



1



2

1 Snap-Shoulder BC—The Freedom R-1 BC from Sherwood offers a streamlined profile, more efficient flotation and easy donning. Comes with backpack. CO₂ inflator optional. Medium and large now available in black, with more sizes and colors available soon. \$255.

2 Lifetime Regulators—Mares' MR12-III regulator, with or without environmental protection kit (EPK), now has a lifetime limited warranty covering metal parts for the original owner (with authorized annual service). MR12-III—\$275, MR12-III with EPK—\$310.



3



4



5

3 Self Draining Snorkel—The Super Vent snorkel from Dacor utilizes a very large diameter vent valve and an internal deflector to minimize clearing effort. Its anatomic mouthpiece swivels. With black rubber mouthpiece—\$22, with silicone—\$28.

4 Activity Organizer—Made of durable plastic, the Activity Organizer holds textbooks, rosters, dive tables, slates, writing materials and other items used by dive students, divers, divemasters and instructors. \$22.95. Available through PADI Training Facilities.

5 Colored Ankle Weights—Durward AnkleWeights are now available in black, royal blue and red to color coordinate with a variety of dive gear. Available in three sizes. \$27-\$29.95. McNett Corporation, P.O. Box 996, Bellingham, Washington 98227.

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6



7



8

6 Pro Dive Watch—The Ultra-Pro Dive Watch (quartz) is water resistant to 1,000 meters. It features a left-side screw down crown, a oneway ratcheted bezel and day/date window. \$99. Innovative Time, 6054 Corte del Cedro, Carlsbad, CA 92008.

7 Matte Finish Knives—Dacor now offers two of its Hi-Tech Series knives with black handles and 4½ inch black matte finished blades. Model 7225 has a sharp edge, serrated edge and a line cutter. Model 7224 has dual edges of combination sharp/serrated. \$40.

8 Easy-On BC—The BCJ-908 jacket from Tabata features padded shoulders with harness buckles for comfort and easy entry. It has a Padded waistband with Velcro® closure for support of tank weight and for individual fit. Integrated backpack \$350.



10



9 Aluminum Scuba Tanks—Dacor Corporation now offers aluminum scuba tanks in a variety of sizes: 14, 50, 63, 74, 80 and 92 cubic feet. All can be filled to 3,000 psi except the 92 cubic foot model, which will take 3,200 psi. Prices range from \$160 to \$320.

10 Patterned Wetsuits—Many of Henderson's wetsuits are now available with a new print fabric: Black Tide. Black Tide (shown here in the Victory Suits) is shiny black Lycra® with accent stripes of blue and red, highlighted by white and yellow. Shorty \$300, full suit \$475.

11 Flexible Video Housing—EWA-Marine now offers flexible, transparent underwater housings for video camcorders. These feature built-in gloves for operating controls, optical glass lenses, water tight closing rails and adjustable carrying straps. \$199.

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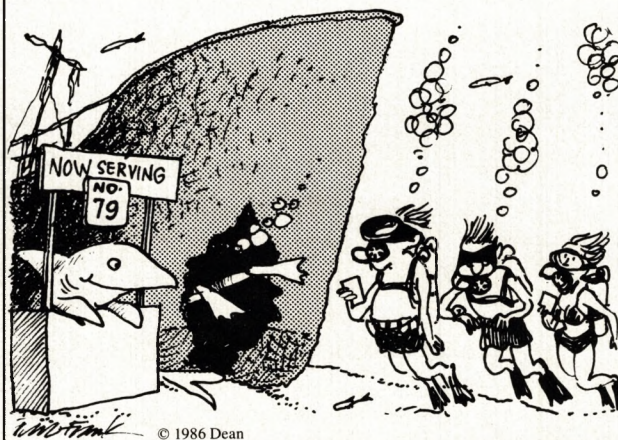
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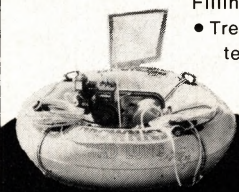
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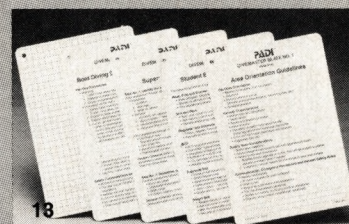
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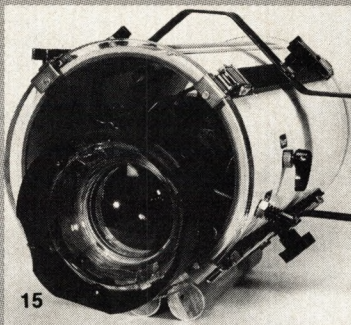


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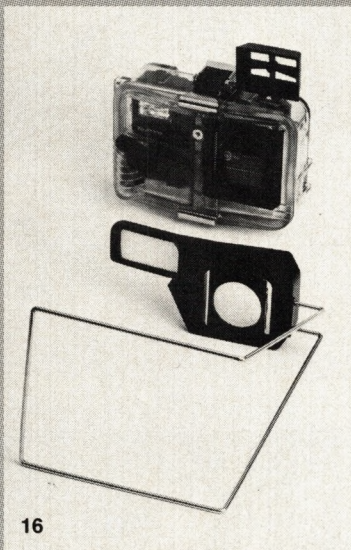
12 After Dive Suit—The Apres Dive suit is 100 percent nylon outer with a terry lining. Jacket has zippered pockets and a cotton lined hood. The pants have drawstring waist and zippered pockets. \$95. Trident Diving Equipment, 20841 Prairie St., Chatsworth, CA 91311.

13 Divemaster Checklist—Divemaster Slaters (5 x 7 1/4 inch) contain checklists and outlines for conducting a variety of supervised activities. They also include a grid slate for underwater mapping. Full set, \$21.50. Available from PADI Training Facilities.

14 Integral Backpack BC—The Sea Jacket Vi from SeaQuest incorporates a unique integral backpack with adjustable lower back support for individual fit and comfort. XL \$495, L and M \$460 with CO₂ inflator—\$482.50, \$447.50 without CO₂.



15



16



17

15 Video Housing—Ikelite's Marine Video System houses camcorders from Sony, RCA, Olympus, JVC, Zenith and Canon. Rated to depths of 150 feet, controls are provided for power, play/record, start/stop, white balance, filter selection and zoom. \$299.95 to \$795.

16 Underwater Disc Close-up—Ikelite's Disc Close-Up attachment allows disc cameras in Ikelite underwater housings to photograph subjects as close as eight inches. The complete assembly includes glass lens, flash diffuser and wire framer. \$39.95.

17 Drysuit Seal Conditioner—Seal Saver is a non-toxic, wipe-on conditioner that helps preserve and maintain latex and urethane drysuit seals. Seal Saver is available in two ounce bottles for \$3.95. McNett Corporation, P.O. Box 996, Bellingham, Washington 98227.

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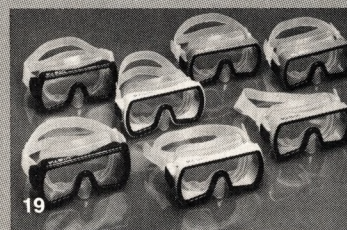
Recommended by Gourmet Magazine, the Old Gin House is known for its fabulous food, including candlelight dinners with wine. Located on the water, it has 20 individually decorated rooms, 2 congenial bars, a freshwater swimming pool, and a fully-equipped Surfside Watersports PADI and NAUI dive facility.

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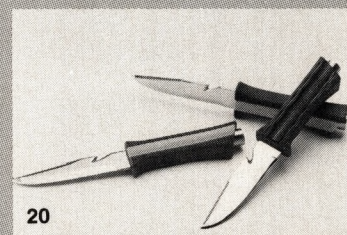
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21

18 Hose Mount Compass—The Hose Mount from Ikelite (\$5.95) positions Ikelite compasses on a submersible pressure gauge hose. The north indicator can be positioned parallel or perpendicular to the hose. With Pro or Pro-S compasses, \$21.95 or \$44.95.

19 Color Coordinated Masks—Dacor's Vista (\$58) and Mini Vista (\$56) clear silicone masks are available with turquoise, pink, white, orange, yellow, transparent blue or transparent red rims to coordinate with a variety of other dive gear.

20 Color Accent Knives—The EK-230 knife from Tabata has a 5.3 inch stainless steel blade with a sharp edge, serrated edge and line cutter. The grip is molded black plastic and features accents of yellow, pink or blue. Comes with a black plastic sheath. \$34.

21 Color Coordinated Boots—DB-3006Z boots from Tabata feature hard soles, capped toes and heels and side zippers. Uppers are available in lavender, hot pink, yellow, bright blue or black to coordinate with other dive gear. Sizes 5-13 \$36.



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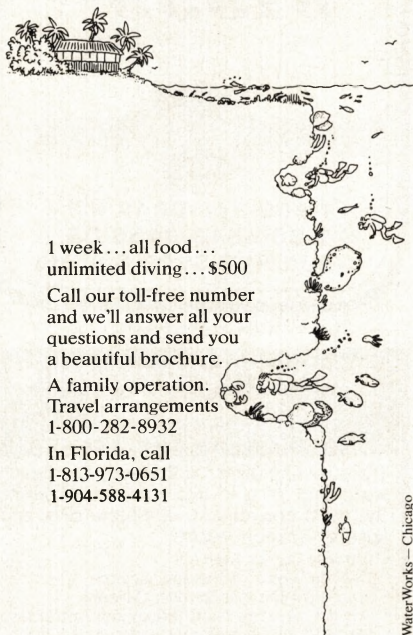
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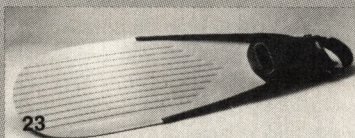
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22 Underwater Lens Filter—The Sharpeye filter helps produce U/W photos with realistic, warm colors using ambient light. Available for Nikonos lenses in 58 (\$49.95) and 52mm (\$47.95) mounts. Whale's Eye Photo, 6676 Northwest Highway, Chicago, IL 60631.

23 Power Fin—The H. Dessault Fin from Sherwood features a long, flexible blade and a foot pocket that creates a lever and fulcrum effect between foot and blade for efficient power. Available with 28 inch orange blade or 25 inch translucent blue blade. \$90.

24 Underwater Metal detector—The BeachHunter AT3 metal detector from Garrett Metal Detectors allows searches to be made six feet underwater or above. Circuitry eliminates interference from saltwater and iron mineralization and "trash." \$599.95.



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NIGHT WALL DIVES



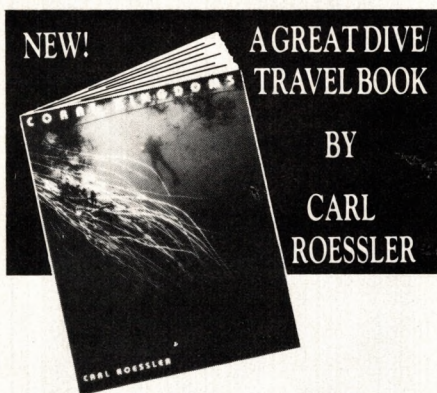
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NASAR SOURCE BOOK

The National Association for Search and Rescue (NASAR) has joined with the Divers Alert Network, the Underwater Society of America and the International Association of Dive Rescue Specialists to create a source book on standards for training and managing public safety dive teams. Jim Corry, manager of the NASAR Source Book project, indicated that most rescue divers are trained only as sport divers and are asked to perform underwater tasks beyond that training.

The Source Book will include: standards for public safety divers and teams, a listing of facilities that can train safety divers, a listing of sources for information on safety divers, a listing of known public safety dive teams in the U.S. and their specialties, a listing of manufacturers that make equipment used by safety divers.

Members of public safety diver teams, related resource centers and equipment manufacturers are asked to contact NASAR to provide input for the book and to receive a copy of it when the project is complete. Contact James A. Corry, Dive Training Standards Project Manager, NASAR, P.O. Box 50178, Washington, D.C. 20004.

SEAFARERS

The Atlantic Alliance for Maritime Heritage Conservation is publishing the first issue of the journal, Seafarers. This is an annual volume of articles and entertaining stories dealing with different facets of our maritime heritage. It offers the American public a unique opportunity to get an inside look at shipwreck archaeology through accounts and information about life at sea centuries ago. Sailors, history buffs, hobbyists and divers will all find it fascinating reading.

Seafarers will be published in a coffee table format with about 250 pages and full photographic plates. It will be available hardbound or softbound. Discounts are available to early subscribers and members of the Atlantic Alliance for Maritime Heritage Conservation.

Contact Seafarers, P.O. Box 1528, Key West, FL 33041.

HABITAT SPECIALTY

The Marine Resources Development Foundation at the Koblick Marine Center in Key Largo, Florida, maintains the country's only U/W habitat available to the diving public. Both NAUI and PADI have recently established a new diving specialty, Underwater Habitat Diver. The small handful of instructors qualified to teach habitat diving has been joined by Tav Koblick and Jim Wittlief. Part of their training involved spending 48 hours living in and working from their underwater base.

The Koblick Marine Center, home for Marine Resources, is on a five acre pen-

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insula immediately adjacent to John Pennekamp Coral Reef State Park. The center has dormitory facilities, a cafeteria, a dive shop, a large lab, dive boats, water recreation equipment and a beach.

Twenty-five feet below the surface in the center's lagoon, three divers can live, eat, sleep and learn in the Underwater Classroom Laboratory. With all the comforts of home—beds, microwave oven, head, refrigerator and showers—one can become part of the undersea world.

For more information contact Marine Resources Development Foundation, 51 Shoreland Drive, P.O. Box 787, Key Largo, Florida 33037; (304) 453-1139 or Jim Wittlief, Great Lakes Dive Service, 483 West Grand Avenue, Port Washington, WI 53074; (414) 284-5619.

ATLANTIC ALLIANCE WORKSHOPS

The Atlantic Alliance for Maritime Heritage Conservation is offering a series of weekend workshops for sport divers interested in learning more about shipwreck archaeology. The program will include artifact recognition and dating, preservation techniques and underwater mapping and survey techniques. The 15 hour course gives the participant a certificate for Basic Archaeological Research Assistant. The most recent workshop sponsored by the Alliance was held at Bowling Green State University and was co-sponsored by the Ohio Council of Skin and Scuba Divers. November 13-16 the Alliance will hold a workshop in Los Angeles, California.

The Alliance offers membership to individuals with special dive club affiliations. For information contact the Atlantic Alliance for Maritime Heritage Conservation, P.O. Box 27272, Central Station, Washington, D.C. 20038 or call (202) 231-3666. Divers on the West Coast may contact David Lee, P.O. Box 3369, Alhambra, CA 91803; (818) 576-8293.

SAFETY NOTICE

The Diving Equipment Manufacturers Association (DEMA) has received reports that certain buoyancy control devices (BCDs) may have a potential problem with the pierce pin attached to the CO₂ inflator mechanism. Owing to the potential breaking of pierce pins (which may not be apparent), the mechanism might fail to activate the cartridge. This would result in the buoyancy control device failing to inflate. However, the alternative methods of inflation are not affected.

If you have purchased a BCD since January 1, 1983 that has a CO₂ inflator mechanism, or that has had this mechanism repaired, replaced or added since that date, and if it has markings identifying it as a Roberts Valve, you should not use the CO₂ inflator mechanism.

If you require additional information, contact your local dive store or the manufacturer of your BCD.

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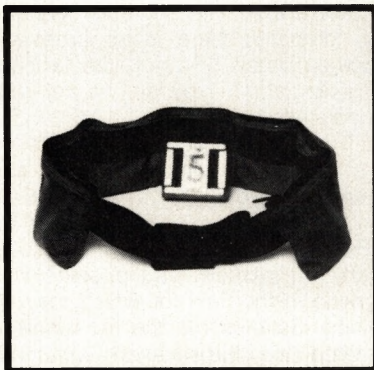
Anuha

this month page 90

Guadalcanal

next month

Don't miss it!



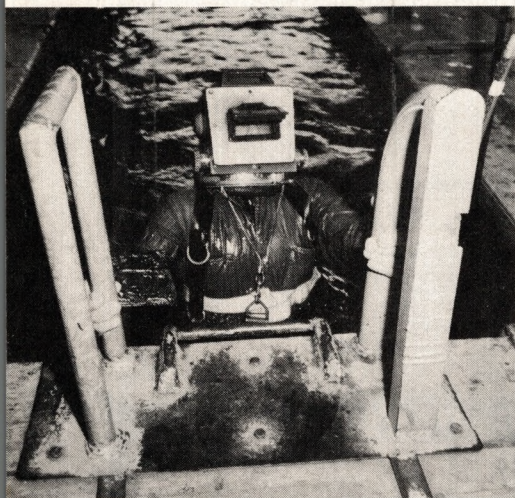
The Dry Pocket

The Weight Belt That Won't Hold Water
by U.D.T. Inc.

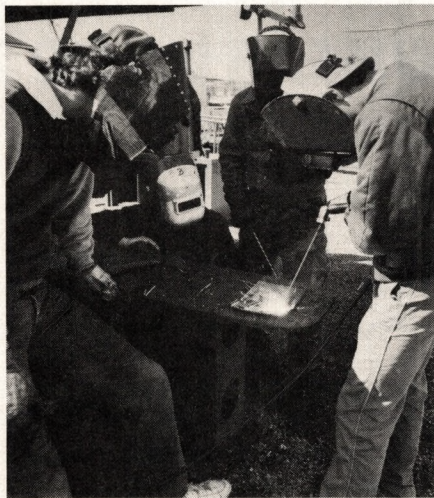
Another quality, innovative product to astonish the diving public. A pocket weight belt made of a P.V.C. coated polyester screen, a super tough and weather resistant material that has the very desirable quality that the water drains out immediately upon surfacing, unlike the neoprene counterpart which stays wet almost forever. Another good feature of the "Dry Pocket" is, it has a camlock nylon buckle and a nylon foul proof zipper to make it easy to remove or replace a weight, it also makes the belt functional for both the standard weight or shot weight. "The Dry Pocket" is every bit as comfortable as the neoprene belt, yet it is more versatile and more durable than the neoprene and it won't hold water. Each pocket has the capacity for a five pound weight. It comes in three sizes: 5, 6, and 7 pocket or Small, Medium, and Large (Extra Large on request). We're not through yet. Holding with U.D.T. philosophy, to give the diver what he wants, the very best, it comes in four different colors: navy blue, yellow, royal blue, and red.

With a suggested retail of \$19.95 it's within the reach of every divers budget.

Send inquiries to:
U.D.T. Inc., P.O. Box 1624, Nederland, TX 77627
Or phone: (409) 724-1823.



Divers Institute of Technology offers an intensive course of study covering virtually every aspect of professional diving—in the type of environment a commercial diver faces everyday: cold water, low visibility. Below, left to right: John Ritter, new DIT president; John Manlove, former president; Charles Litzo, former vice president; and Norval Duncan, new vice president.



photos/courtesy DIT

DIT (Continued from Page 42)

cident or injury of any significance. In fact, DIT classes have been called upon in many instances to assist local law enforcement personnel in water-related incidents that are "out of their depth." Most recently, a small plane was lost in Lake Washington in an area of extreme depth and poor visibility. Police divers using conventional gear had no luck at recovery and turned to DIT.

"After reaching the disaster site, we located the plane on the first dive," Ritter said. "It took about 15 minutes."

The students at DIT study for 21 weeks before the deep dives are begun. Complete training in mixed gas diving theory, emergency procedures and actual dry runs in the chamber to 200 feet are part of this procedure. The students then board the Deep Dive Barge—a floating hands-on training facility—to experience the realities of 200 feet.

DIT is rightfully proud of this aspect of their training program. "A graduate of DIT

knows exactly how to dive safely and with confidence to these levels," says Ritter. "There is no replacement for experience. Our students know exactly what to expect and how to conduct themselves in dives of this type. You cannot simulate this kind of experience in a chamber."

The commercial diving industry has long recognized the value of DIT training. Because of its independent status (DIT is not associated with any commercial diving company) there is no pressure to place emphasis on any particular course of training at the expense of a well-rounded education.

"There are companies that hire entry level employees who are almost exclusively DIT graduates," says Norval Duncan. "That is an excellent endorsement."

Based on surveys from graduates, nearly 90 percent of the students are working in the field for which they were trained. Salaries run the full range—depending upon the situation—with tenders starting at \$15,000 to \$20,000 and expe-

rienced divers pulling in as much as \$100,000 for nine month's work.

OIL INDUSTRY OUTLOOK

The oil industry has dominated the demand for commercial divers in recent years. The highly publicized economic woes of this industry have caused some to ask if the demand for divers will drop off proportionately. Not so, according to DIT. If the oil industry were to stop exploration today, the mere inspection and maintenance of existing facilities would provide good opportunities for well trained entry level divers. Commercial divers are necessary for inspection and maintenance of the offshore rigs on a day-to-day basis. The fact that new rigs are not being built does not mean the demand for divers is in peril.

It is also vital to remember the oil business is just one part of the commercial diving industry. Subsea construction, salvage, seismic surveying, industrial and port authority opportunities are widely available. Commercial divers are working daily in the chemical industry, for pulp mills, water treatment facilities and power plants. As long as bridges are being built, harbors planned and industries developed, the demand for commercial divers will remain strong.

DIT plans to remain in the forefront of this growing industry. Norval Duncan, DIT's new vice president, considers DIT to be among the finest technical schools in the world.

"In the last 15 years of my vocational education experience, I have been keenly aware of the quality of the training offered by Divers Institute of Technology," Duncan said. "When the opportunity arose to become associated with DIT, I jumped at the chance. The school has, over the years, established such a commendable record for quality training and effective placement that I hope I am able to make a contribution in the continuing success of this organization."

Virtually every approving and accrediting agency involved in commercial diving and trade or vocational school management recognizes DIT's curriculum. Financial assistance is available to prospective students from a variety of sources and DIT's staff routinely assists students in securing the appropriate sources of funding for their education.

The future looks bright for DIT and the commercial diving industry. "We are proud of our history," says Ritter. "We will work to maintain the high standards of safety and training established in the first two decades and build upon our reputation of producing the finest commercial divers in the business."

For more information on DIT write: Divers Institute of Technology, Inc., 4601 Shilshole Ave. NW, P.O. Box 70312, Seattle, Washington 98107 or call (206) 783-5542.

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PHOTOGRAPHY



Helix is proud to present a sampling of the best underwater equipment and publications available. Now in our 24th year in business, we will continue to offer the best in underwater photographic values. One of those values is Nikon's new Action-Touch 35mm camera. Ruggedly designed for active people, the Action-Touch performs in places where water, dust and sand would damage other cameras. Features like autofocus, auto exposure, auto flash and completely automatic film handling mean you stay in the action while getting great photos. Waterproof down to 10 feet, this camera is ideal for the pool, the boat, and the surf. Plus, it is light enough at 1 lb. 2 oz. for backpacking, cycling and other activities where weight is important. The sharp autofocus 35mm f2.8 lens puts your subject in focus fast and only needs to be manually adjusted when underwater.

For above water activities, the Nikon 7x20 compact all-purpose binoculars extend your view with the best and brightest optics. At 9.9 oz. and 3.4x 4.3", these binoculars offer a light and small addition to your diving expedition at an affordable price. The textured surface provides a sure grip and optical glass plates protect the front lens elements. For quickly spotting diving buoys, these glasses feature a 7.1° view for a 373 foot field of view at 1000 yards. Turn the page for more in Nikon underwater values, including the Nikonos V and the SB-103.



Helix Special Nikonos Package 1

Nikonos V

The Nikonos V features versatility never before available to the underwater photographer. It features aperture-priority auto exposure, a hinged back for easy loading and a large viewfinder for clear framing. In addition, the Nikonos V has a range of manual shutter speeds from 1/30th to 1/1000th of a second, x-sync speeds of 1/30, 1/60, 1/90, a built-in light meter, LED shutter speed and exposure indicators. The built-in TTL sensor measures light at the film plane, accurately controlling the output of a TTL dedicated strobe. The camera works with any Nikonos 3/4 compatible strobe (without TTL sensor). The Nikonos V accepts a wide range of accessories, including the full line of U/W Nikkor lenses and strobes. Tested to 160 ft.

- 10070 Nikonos V, orange, body only w/spare o-ring, grease and battery . **319.00****
- 10071 Nikonos V, green, body only w/spare o-ring, grease and battery . **319.00****
- 10072 Nikonos V w/35mm f2.5 w/spare o-ring, grease and battery . **418.00****
- 10074 Nikonos V w/28mm f3.5 w/spare o-ring, grease and battery . **538.00****

Helix Special Nikonos Packages

- Package 1: Nikonos V w/35mm f2.5, dive light and equipment case (18x13x8) **449.00****
- Package 3: Nikonos V w/35mm f2.5, dive light, equipment case w/foam and Nikonos close-up outfit **559.00****
- Package 4: Nikonos V w/35mm f2.5, dive light, equipment case w/foam and Morris Aqua F-III TTL strobe **718.00****
- Package 5: Nikonos V w/35mm f2.5, dive light, Nikonos SB-103 strobe w/arm, tray, TTL sync cord, diffuser and equipment case (18x13x8") **768.00****
- Package 6: Nikonos V w/35mm f2.5, dive light, equipment case and Helix Aquafash 28TTL w/light mount . . **869.00****
- Package 7: Nikonos V w/35mm f2.5, dive light, equipment case, Helix Aquafash 28TTL and Nikonos close-up outfit **989.00****

Nikonos Lenses

- 10315 15mm f2.8 **859.00**
- 10314 20mm f2.8 **389.00**

- 10310 28mm f3.5 IC **219.00**
- 10311 35mm f2.5 IC **99.00**
- 10312 80mm f4 IC **199.00**
- 10313 28mm f2.8 LC for land use . **159.00**

Nikonos Filters

- 2265 CC30R **19.00**
- 2402 Skylight (L-18C) **23.80**
- 2295 Light Yellow (Y-44) **17.20**
- 2399 UV haze (L-37-C) **17.60**
- 10625 Lens hood/filter holder for 35.80mm **5.50**

Nikonos Close-Up Outfit

For parallax-free underwater close-up shots at 9 1/4" subject distance. Includes supplementary close-up lens, field frames for 3 lenses (works with 80mm, 35mm or 28mm) and mount braces. For Nikonos V and all earlier models.

- 10705N Close-up outfit, basic without case **139.00**
- 10705 Close-up outfit, deluxe w/case **174.00**
- 10706 Case for close-up outfit **59.95**

Your old close-up outfit doesn't fit your new Nikonos V? Helix can upgrade your system! Call our Underwater Department for more information.

Nikonos Viewfinders

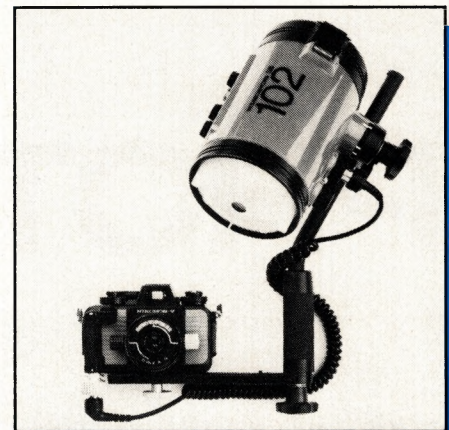
- DF-11 15mm viewfinder, UW use only **189.00**
- DF-12 20/28mm viewfinder, UW use only **119.95**
- 10751 28mm sportsfinder **16.00**
- 10753 35/80mm sportsfinder **16.50**
- DF-10 80mm viewfinder, topside use only for Nikonos IV, V **69.00**

Nikonos Cases

- 10420 Carrying case for IV and V . . **29.95**
- 10414 Eveready case for III w/35mm, 28mm **19.50***
- 10415 Eveready case for Nikonos II w/35mm, 28mm **19.50***
- 10418 Lens case, CL-50, for 35mm . . **20.00**
- 10419 Lens case, CL-51, for 80mm . . **30.00**

Miscellaneous

- 10713 O-ring set for V **6.75**
- 10714 O-ring set for IV-A **6.75**
- 10715 O-ring set for III **5.50**
- 10716 O-ring set for I, II **10.00**
- 10730 Rear lens cap for 15mm (new) 28, 35, 80mm **5.50**
- 10803 Front lens cap for new style 15mm **32.00**
- 10804 Front lens cap (60mm) for 28, 35 and 80mm **5.50**
- 10626 Rubber lens hood for 35mm . . . **5.50**
- 10620 Lens protector for 28mm **5.50**



Nikonos Speedlight SB-102 shown with optional camera.

Nikonos Speedlight SB-102

When in use with the Nikonos V, the Speedlight's automatic TTL flash exposure control regulates flash output that's instantly reflected off the film. The helpful Synchro-sunlight/exposure compensation allows you to effectively adjust the exposure to get the creative lighting you desire. Use the SB-102's modeling light to accurately judge the picture before you shoot the subject. The SB-102 also features a silicon thyristor-controlled rectifier and series circuitry. Covering a 28mm lens, it provides a 79° angle of coverage. With full output, it has a guide number of 32 on land with ASA 100 film. Five second recycling time with a fresh set of 6 C-type Nicad or alkaline batteries. Includes case, diffuser, arm, tray and TTL sync cord.

- 10102 Speedlight SB-102 **619.00+**
- 10101 SB-102 head only **499.00+**

Nikonos Speedlight SB-103

For an underwater flash that's easy to use, the Nikonos SB-103 is all you need. It's silicon thyristor-controlled with series circuitry for the most reliable performance. In the automatic TTL flash mode with the Nikonos V, the SB-103 has a 1/90 sec. flash sync speed. Manual flash control may be used with the Nikonos IV-A or III cameras. Three manual power settings include full, 1/2 and 1/16. Covering a 28mm lens, the angle of coverage is 70°. Using ASA 100 film, the SB-103 has a wide aperture range from f2.8 to f22. Offers optional multiple flash bracket and double sync cord. Uses 4 "AA" Nicad or alkaline batteries. Pressure tested to 160 feet. Includes case, diffuser, arm, tray and TTL cord.

- 10103 Speedlight SB-103 **319.00+**
- 10104 SB-103 head only **199.00+**

* Limited quantities

**** Qualifies for Nikon FREE extension tube or Nikonos dry case offer. Call for details!**

+Qualifies for Nikon FREE dive light offer. Call for details!

Products include Nikon Inc. U.S.A. limited warranty application.

NIKON BELOW

Nikonos Speedlight Accessories

10205 TTL sync cord (land) for Nikonos V	62.50
10725 PC flash adapter (land) for Nikonos II	21.00*
10724 PC flash adapter (land) for Nikonos III	21.00*
10729 PC flash adapter (land) for Nikonos IV, V	25.00
10201 Double bracket set for SB-102/103	235.00
10214 Double bracket (tray) only	118.00

10203 Extension arm set for SB-102/103	102.00
10204 Double TTL sync cord for SB-102/103	102.00
10711 O-ring set w/silicone for SB-103	6.75
10712 O-ring set w/silicone for SB-102	6.75
10200 Protector for SB-102	58.00
10746 SU-101 remote auto sensor for SB-101/102	88.50
10741 Case for SB-101/102/103	67.50
FP-26 Flash bulbs, pack of 12, for Nikonos flash gun	7.50

* Limited quantities

SPECIAL PURCHASE for Nikonos I, II or III owners

Nikonos underwater flash gun for Nikonos I, II. Batteries included, uses #26 bulbs.
List price 189.75
Helix price 49.00*

Nikonos underwater flash gun for Nikonos III. Batteries included, uses #26 bulbs.
List price 235.25
Helix price 59.00*

NIKON ABOVE



Nikon 8x30 rubber, 9x25 compact and 7x35CF Action

Nikon Compact Binoculars

Ideal for the active person wanting an all-purpose pair of binoculars, Nikon Compacts offer superb optics in a small and light porro prism design. Lightweight and moisture-resistant alloy housings are wrapped in textured vinyl for a sure grip, plus coated optical glass plates protect the front elements from damage. All have convenient center focusing and each includes a neckstrap and storage pouch.

7701 7x20CF compact (featured on the cover)	79.00
7702 9x25CF compact	89.00
7704 10x25CF compact	129.00

Nikon 8x30 Rubber-Coated Binoculars

These rubber-coated binoculars offer excellent shock and moisture protection for the harsh environment near water. The roof-prism design delivers more light to the user's eye and internal focusing allows better sealing against moisture, dust and sand. Rubber eyecups add extra comfort and protection for eyeglass wearers. At 1000 yards, these 8x30 binoculars offer a 393 ft. field of view.

777 8x30DIF rubber-coated	199.00
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Other Nikon Binoculars

7790 7x35CF action	79.00
7858 10x50CF sentinal	189.00

NEW! Nikon Tele Touch

Continuous autofocus technology combines with a double choice of lens focal length on this Nikon. With the Tele Touch, you have the option of using the wide-angle 38mm f3.5 lens or the short telephoto 65mm f5.6 lens. The wide-angle focuses as close as 1.3 feet for great close-ups. Film loading, speed setting, advance and rewind are all automatic. Plus, the built-in automatic flash illuminates dimly lit shots.

1803 Tele Touch camera	229.00
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Nikon Tele Touch

Nikon Action Touch

Featured on the cover.

1840 Action Touch	189.00
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Nikon One-Touch

This compact camera offers 11 automatic functions for simplicity at its finest. Besides autofocus and auto-exposure, the One-Touch features a DX coding sensor to adjust the camera to your film speed. To protect the 35mm f2.8 lens, the One-Touch has an automated lens cover. Also offers automatic film loading, winding and rewinding. The automatic flash pops up if the scene needs additional lighting, while the camera adjusts itself to the proper exposure. 11 oz.

1804 One-Touch camera	149.00
Helix/Nikon package with One-Touch and Auto-Marine II Housing	238.00



Nikon N2020 with 35-70mm f3.5-4.5

NEW! Nikon N2020

The traditional Nikon lens mount has been modified to incorporate autofocus innovation for simpler, less technical 35mm photography. The N2020, with a built-in 2.5 fps motor drive, offers three focus modes, three programmed exposure modes, aperture priority and manual operation. Film handling is easy with auto film loading, auto film speed setting and auto advance. Nearly 30 Nikon

AI lenses can be adapted to autofocus operation with an optional teleconverter and nearly all AI lenses may be mounted and operated manually.

N2020 AF, black body only	329.00
N2020 AF with 50mm f1.8AF	399.00
N2020 AF with 35-70mm f3.5-4.5 AF	485.00

Nikon N2000

The N2000 features the convenience of high speed programming in addition to the normal programming mode. Also offers programmed TTL auto-flash mode. Includes automatic ISO DX indexing, film loading, advance and winding. The N2000 has exposure override capabilities including aperture-priority automatic, manual, exposure compensation and exposure lock. 1 lb., 4 oz.

N2000, black body only	229.00
N2000 with 50mm f1.8AI-S	289.00
N2000 with 50mm f1.4AI-S	389.00



Helix/Nikon Accessory Kit I

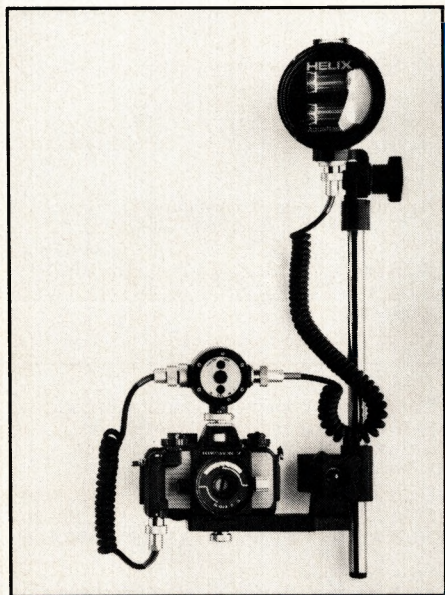
Includes a Nikon brown canvas gadget bag, Nikon 52mm L-37 UV haze filter, Nikon 52mm HR-4 rubber lens hood, "Nikon Guide to Photography" book. If purchased separately, items would total \$47.45.

Helix/Nikon Accessory Kit I	34.95
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JIM AND CATHY CHURCH SCHOOL

Join us November 14-16th, 1986 for a weekend filled with seminars and activities for underwater photographers, including an all-day photo school with Jim and Cathy Church on Saturday. Other scheduled events are a Nikonos System Presentation and Video AV Workshop. Call our Underwater Department for details!

Products Include Nikon Inc. U.S.A. limited warranty application.



Helix Aquaflash 28TTL shown with optional Nikonos camera

Helix Aquaflash 28TTL

The new Aquaflash 28TTL performs like no other. This flash functions in both automatic and manual exposure modes down to 165 feet and offers a high-power guide number of 32 at ASA 100. Twin flash reflector design provides wide angle lighting and will cover a 28mm lens. Add the wide angle diffuser, and the 28TTL will even handle a 15mm lens. Tilt and swivel controls on the Aquaflash arm allow for a variety of lighting techniques, while detachable cords allow for easier storage and less cumbersome manual operation. A TTL auto sensor module with built-in slave mounts on the camera's accessory shoe for hand-held operation with full auto exposure control with the Nikonos III or IV, and TTL auto exposure control with the Nikonos V. The Aquaflash 28TTL operates on 6" AA alkaline or nicad batteries and comes complete with arm, dedicated TTL sync cable, bracket, mounting tray and wide angle diffuser. Includes a 2-year limited Helix warranty. New Aquaflash 28TTL **429.00**

Helix Aquaflash 28

This handle mount flash offers all of the features of the 28TTL, except it is supplied with a standard automatic exposure/slave sensor module (non-TTL) for use with Nikonos III, IV or V. Comes complete with arm, connector cables, bracket, and mounting tray. Includes a 2-year limited warranty. Wide angle diffuser optional.

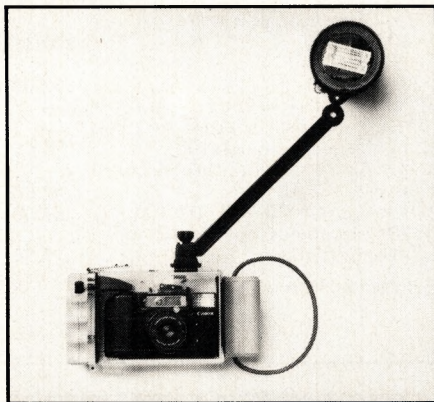
Aquaflash 28, specify Nikonos I/II, III/IV/V **329.00**
Aquaflash 28, specify EO or ICS . . . **339.00**

Helix Aquaflash Accessories

HUP-HSA 8" short arm **9.95**
HUP-HLM Light mount **10.50**
HUP-KIT Upgrade kit for Aqua 28 to 28TTL **129.00**
HOK-22/28 O-ring kit for 22/28 **4.95**
HOK-TTL O-ring kit for 28TTL **5.95**
HUP-WAA 15mm WA adapter **27.95**

Helix EO Connectors

HUP-EOII 6" EO to Nikonos I/II . . . **56.00**
HUP-EOIII 6" EO to Nikonos III/IV/V . **56.00**
HEO-EXT 10 ft. male/female EO . . . **99.00**
HEO-EXT 20 ft. male/female EO . . . **108.00**



Helix Auto-Marine II housing shown with optional Universal slave strobe and camera.

Helix Auto Marine II Housing

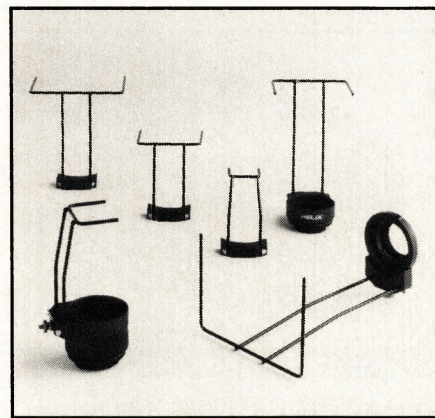
Besides offering top results, the Auto-Marine II is simple to operate and easy to maintain. Made of durable acrylic resin and stainless steel, the housing is pressure tested to 100' with its reliable o-ring seal. Its exclusive infra-red autofocus regulator automatically adjusts the camera for underwater photography. The regulator may be switched off when taking pictures above water. The Auto Marine II Housing may be used with many popular autofocus cameras. Includes yellow rubber hand grips.

HUP-010 Housing for Nikon One-Touch **99.00**
HUP-011 Housing for Nikon L35AF . . **99.00**
HUP-012 Housing for Canon AF35M . . **99.00**
HUP-013 Housing for Canon AF35M2 . **99.00**
HUP-016 Housing for Canon AF35ML . **99.00**
Spare o-ring (specify model) **5.00**

Helix Universal Slave Strobe

This easy-to-use slave strobe requires no cable or connectors, and is designed to be compatible with the Helix Auto Marine Housing, Hanimex or Sea & Sea's 110 and 35mm cameras, and Ikelite's disc and trim cases. It is supplied with a 9" arm which helps eliminate backscatter problems that are common in low-visibility waters. Black.

Universal slave strobe, specify camera or housing **98.00**



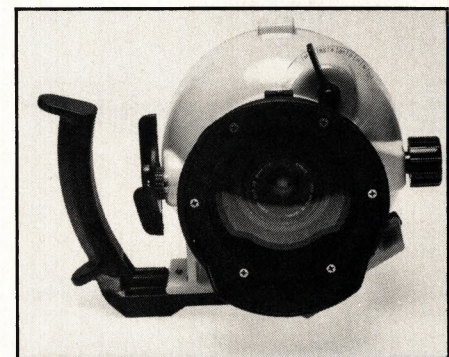
Helix Master Set

Helix Extension Tube System

Our unique extension tube system is designed to help you build the most versatile set of tubes and framers available. With just 3 basic tubes, you can develop up to 7 different tube, framer, and lens combinations for your 35mm

or 28mm Nikonos lenses without having to buy 7 different tubes and framers. You can even use the Helix extension tube system to expand a basic Subsea or Nikon extension tube set.

HUP-HLX Extension tube upgrade kit with 1 tube and 4 framers for Subsea or Helix basic set to Super Master set **79.50**
HUP-122 Basic extension tube set with 2 tubes and 3 framers for 35mm (1:1, 1:2, 2:1) **79.50**
HUP-230 Basic set with 2 tubes and 3 framers for 28mm (1:1, 1:1.8, 1:2.75) **79.50**
HUP-123 Deluxe set with 3 tubes and 4 framers for 35mm (2:1, 1:1, 1:2, 1:3) **110.00**
HUP-124 Master set with 3 tubes and 6 framers for 28mm and 35mm (1:1, 1:2, 1:3, 1:1.8, 1:2.75) . . . **140.00**
HUP-125 Super Master set with 3 tubes and 7 framers for 28mm and 35mm (2:1, 1:1, 1:2, 1:3, 1:1.8, 1:2.75) . **155.00**
HUP-311 1:1 tube w/framer for 35mm **35.00**
HUP-312 1:2 tube w/framer for 35mm **35.00**
HUP-313 1:3 tube w/framer for 35mm **35.00**
HUP-212 1:1.8 tube w/framer for 28mm **35.00**
HUP-213 1:2.75 tube w/framer for 28mm **35.00**
HUP-FR Framer only (specify lens and ratio) **20.00**



Helix/Kamba housing, shown with optional camera

Helix/Kamba SLR Housing

Designed for use with Canon's A-1, AE-1, AE-1 Program, AV-1 with A or A2 power winder, this housing features reflex focusing and allows external operation of shutter release and aperture. It has a standard dome port for 17-100mm lenses and accepts a number of optional ports, including a wide angle and macro port. It is also available with a Nikonos II or Nikonos III/IV sync socket connector. The body, made of sturdy lexan, is pressure tested to 200' and is supplied with grease, tools, o-rings and standard focusing rings, as well as a 34 diopter filter that fits 52mm threaded lenses that do not meet minimum focus requirements of the dome port. The housing has a convenient side handle for easy carrying, and weighs less than 6 lbs. without the camera.

Helix/Kamba housing **299.50**

Helix/Kamba Package

Includes a Canon AV-1 body, 28mm f2.8 Canon lens, Canon Winder A and Kamba underwater housing. Limited quantities.

Helix/Kamba package **445.00**
Helix/Kamba Deluxe Package, same as above but also includes Helix Aquaflash 28 and bracket **749.00**

Prices subject to change without notice.



*Ikelite housing for Sony CCD-M8U
Shown with optional Handycam and tape.*

Ikelite 8mm Video Housings

The latest development from Ikelite, specifically constructed to house the new 8mm video cameras. Simple-to-operate with stop/tape, preset focus and color balance. Flat port. Tested to 150 feet.

- Housing for Sony CCD-M8U Handycam with ballast 255.00
- Housing for Sony CCD-M8U as above plus WA adapter and dome port 419.00
- Housing for Sony CCD-U8AFU camcorder with ballast and flat port 675.75
- Housing for Kyocera Finemovie 8AF with ballast and flat port 675.75

Sony MPK-M8 Marine Pack

This self-contained, compact housing designed for the Sony Handycam features built-in wide-angle conversion lens, top-mounted viewfinder frame, peizo electronic micro-

phone and S & S arm on either side of the housing. The camera and housing weigh only 7 lbs., 11 oz. out of the water. Spare O-ring and removable counterweight included. Tested to 120 feet. 11- 7/8x 10- 1/4x 10-1/2.

- MPK-M8 Marine Pack housing for CCD-M8U 899.00
- UW8-PAK Marine pack housing for CCD-M8U Handycam w/50W halogen lamp 1335.00
- SPK-M8 All-weather housing for CCD-M9U Sports Handycam 165.00

Aqua Vision Systems Marine Capsule 8 Housing

A self-contained camera housing for the Sony CCD-M8U 8mm Handycam. The sturdy aluminum body is fully anodized and epoxy-coated for durability. Its wide-angle conversion lens provides a 94-degree field of view and 9 inch to infinity depth of field. With camera, the housing weighs only 9 lbs. out of the water, Includes external microphone. Pressure tested to 250 feet.

- AVS Marine Capsule 8 housing 679.00

8mm Video Outfits For The Diver

- Aquavision/Sony package-includes Capsule 8 housing with optical finder and CCD-M8U Handycam with EV-C8U portable play back deck, Nicad battery and AC adapter 1678.00
- Ikelite/Sony package-Includes housing and CCD-M8U Handycam with EV-C8U portable play back deck, Nicad battery and AC adapter 1254.00
- Ikelite/Kyocera package-includes housing and Finemovie 8AF camcorder, AC adapter/charger, Nicad battery and marine filter 1670.75

1/2" Portable Video Outfits For The Diver

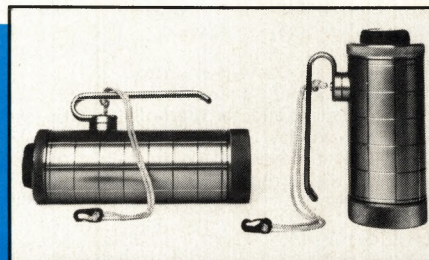
- Ikelite/JVC package-includes camera and recorder housings, dome port, 10 pin cable, GX-N4U camera with 6:1 f1.2 zoom(46mm

- filter size), HRC-3 mini-VHS recorder, nicad battery and charger. 1595.00
- Ikelite/JVC/Olympus package-includes camera and recorder housings, dome port, 10 pin cable, GX-N8U autofocus camera with 8.5-51mm f1.2 zoom(46mm filter size), VC-105 portable recorder with nicad battery, marine filter and P.A.V.E. wide-angle adapter. Requires VR-208 tuner or VF-BA4 adapter for AC operation 2289.00

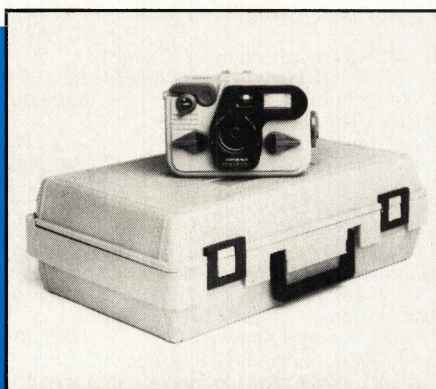
Helix Video/Movie Lights

Housed in lightweight, corrosive-resistant aluminum housings, the HL-4000 and HL-7000 lights features electronic circuitry which controls light output and prevents power overload. The HL-4000 provides a burntime of 96 minutes with 50W, 48 minutes with 100W, or 27 minutes with 175W bulbs. The HL-7000 gives 145 minutes with 50W, 75 minutes with 100W, or 40 minutes with 175W bulbs. Built to resist water penetration down to 1200 feet. Bulbs not included.

- HL-4000 Video/movie light with charger 695.00
- HL-7000 Video/movie light with charger 779.00
- HL-SK Knob/screw M8 16.00
- BLR 50W, 12V lamp 6.85
- FCR 100W, 12V lamp 8.40
- 175W, 12V lamp 27.50



HANIMEX



HanimeX 35 Amphibian and equipment case

HanimeX 110 Amphibian

This 110 cartridge film camera can be used for underwater photography down to 150'. It features a built-in autowinder, a built-in electronic flash, manual metering with 2 exposure settings, a fine quality 20mm f4 fixed focus lens, and a rugged body with a bright yellow finish.

- 110 Amphibian 89.50
- Slave strobe for 110 98.00
- Macro lens and wand for 110 35.00
- Close-up lens for 110, 2 foot 23.95
- Amphibian bag for 110, 35 17.95
- O-ring for 110, repl. 3.95

HanimeX 35 Amphibian

Now you can have all-weather protection in a versatile 35mm camera. This rugged camera is built to withstand water pressure down to a depth of 150', and also protects against dust, dirt and sand. Powered by 2 "AA" batteries, the 35 Amphibian incorporates motor driven film advance, built-in electronic flash, LED exposure warning signal, f2.8 to f22 apertures, and variable focus from 3 feet to infinity.

- 35 Amphibian 157.50
- 35 Amphibian and equipment case, 14 1/2x9x4 1/2" 177.50
- 35 Amphibian and slave strobe 252.50
- 35 Amphibian, slave strobe and equipment case package 269.50

HanimeX 35 Amphibian Accessories

- Slave strobe with arm and tray 98.00
- Camera bracket and grip 39.95
- Eveready case, black 17.95
- 1:3 Macro lens and wand 48.00
- Close-up lens set (+1,+3) 26.95
- 21/28mm wide angle adapter 89.50
- Sports finder 8.95
- Wide angle Sportsfinder 11.95
- Adapter ring for use of 46mm filters . . 5.95
- O-ring, repl. 3.95

HELIX BONAIRE DIVE TRIPS

Includes the Nikonos Technique Pro Seminar
January 31-February 7, 1987
February 7-14, 1987
Call for details!

VIVITAR

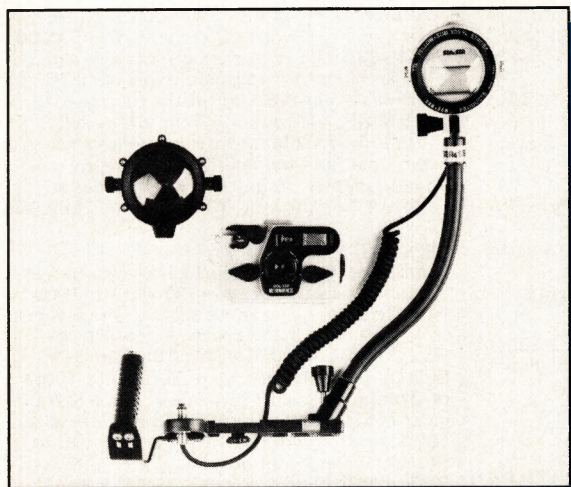


Vivitar Trek 50

For the beach, the boat, or wherever exciting photos are happening, the Trek 50 offers all-weather, auto exposure and auto flash performance. The exterior is protected by a rubber armor coating for shock protection and the camera features a positive buoyancy so it won't take a dive without you. Other features include auto film loading, advance and rewind. 35mm f5.6 fixed focus lens. Tested to 10 feet.

- Vivitar Trek 50 119.00

- Vivitar 5200 zoom strobe w/one dedicated module, specify camera . . 69.00



Sea & Sea
Motormarine
35SE
YS100TTL and
17mm f3.5 lens.

Sea & Sea Motor Marine 35SE

Useful built-in features include motor winder, strobe with two settings and light meter for use with ASA 100, 200, or 400 film. Includes variable focus from 3 feet to infinity with a 35mm f2.8 ground glass lens.

Motor Marine 35SE	199.00
Motor Marine 35SE with sealoc bulkhead	219.00
Sea & Sea/Helix package-w/Motor Marine 35 & Helix slave strobe	297.00
WL-24 Wide lens adapter (24mm)	159.95
CU-3 Close-up lens	37.75
CU-4 Macro lens w/wand	59.95
O-ring for PC-35, repl.	5.90
Shoulder bag	23.35

Sea & Sea Pocket Marine 110SE

Waterproof to 150 feet, the Pocket Marine 110SE includes a built-in motor drive, strobe

and light meter. It offers a minimum 40 inch focus, 1/125 second shutter speed and variable aperture from f4 to f16. Includes a 20mm ground glass lens.

Pocket Marine 110SE	119.00
Pocket Marine 110SE w/Sealoc bulkhead	139.00
Pocket Marine 110SE and Helix slave strobe	217.00
CU-1 Macro lens (5") with wand	43.10
CU-2 Close-up lens (2")	32.30
O-ring for PC-1, repl.	3.95
YS-20 strobe (Sealoc)	105.00
CA-1 mount arm YS-20 to PC-1	16.65
O-ring for YS-20, repl.	3.95
Shoulder bag	23.30

Sea & Sea Strobes

YS-100TTL	345.00
YS-100TTL w/arm, tray and diffuser	436.00

YS-150 2-power strobe w/slave for Nikonos I, II	399.00
YS-150 2-power strobe w/slave for Nikonos III, V	399.00
YS-150 2-power strobe w/slave, Sealoc	399.00

Sea & Sea Strobe Accessories

B-5200 Adapter, Sealoc to Nikonos I, II	50.00
B-5300 Adapter, Sealoc to Nikonos III, IV	50.00
Nicad pack for YS-150, repl.	71.50
Quick charge nicad pack for YS-150	81.95
Charger for YS-150, repl.	23.30
Quick charger for quick charge nicad only	73.50

Sea & Sea Mounting Equipment

SA-11 Short sea arm, 2 section	91.00
SA-111 Flex sea arm	89.95
Tray for Nikonos IV, V	25.50
Tray and handle for Nikonos III	44.50
Sea grip V tray and handle for Motor Marine 35, Nikonos III, IV, V	75.50

Sea & Sea Lenses

17mm f3.5 w/case	445.00
24mm Nikonos lens kit	150.00

Sea & Sea Housings and Accessories

Aluminum housing for Nikon F3 with standard flat port and 2 strobe mounts	1799.00
10W focus light	377.00
Macro port	613.00
Dome port	154.00
Focus gear for 15mm, 16mm, 55mm micro	58.00
Focus gear for 105mm micro	71.00
Aluminum housing for Nikon F2	795.00

Sea & Sea Extension Tubes

D-2100 1:1 tube and framer f/35mm	59.95
D-2200 1:2 tube and framer f/35mm	59.95
D-2300 1:3 tube and framer f/35mm	59.95
D-2400 1:4 tube and framer f/35mm	59.95

USED EQUIPMENT

Helix has a large inventory of all types of used and demo equipment. Each item is thoroughly checked before being priced, and most come with a Helix 6-month warranty. Equipment marked "AS IS" is not warrantied. Please call us at 800/33-HELIX or 312/421-6000 to find out what's currently available in used underwater equipment. All used equipment is sold subject to your approval and prior sale.

Cameras

Nikonos II body	179.00
Nikonos II w/35mm f2.5, case	249.00
Nikonos II w/35mm f2.5, case, bulb flash, 12 bulbs and battery	299.00
Nikonos II w/35mm f2.5, Sea & Sea YS-20 flash, arm and tray	389.00
Nikonos IVA body, mint	229.00
Nikonos IVA w/35mm f2.5, extension tube set, arm, tray, sync, carrying case	549.00
Nikonos IVA w/35mm f2.5, Helix Aquafash 22 and case	499.00
Nikonos IVA w/35mm f2.5, Sonic Research SR-2000, arm, tray, cord, ext. tube set and case	549.00
Hanimex 110 Amphibian	75.00
Hanimex 110 Amphibian w/slave strobe	159.00
Hanimex 35 Amphibian	139.00
Hanimex 35 Amphibian w/slave strobe	219.00
Hanimex 35 Amphibian w/slave strobe and case	239.00

Housings

Ikelite housing for Canon F-1 w/tray, dome and case	249.00
Ikelite housing for Nikon F2	169.00

Ikelite housing for Olympus 35EC or EC2	39.00
Ikelite strobe housing for Vivitar 281	19.95

Strobes

Nikonos SB-101 complete	199.00
Nikonos SB-102 head, sync cord and diffuser only	469.00
Nikonos SB-103 complete	249.00
Subsea MK150 (510V) w/EO, mint	399.00
Subsea MK150 (510V) w/EO	349.00
Subsea MK100 (300V) w/EO	219.00
Oceanic strobe 2000 w/arm and tray, for Nik. III	135.00
Oceanic strobe 2000 w/arm and tray, EO	155.00
Strobomarine with tray, for Nik. III	139.00
Sonic Research SR2000 w/charger, Nelson	190.00
Sonic Research SR2000 w/charger	185.00
Honeywell 880 (510V) w/Ikelite housing, complete	179.00
Toshiba TM-1 for Nik. III	99.00
Ikelite Substrobe 150L	289.00
EO to Nikonos II cables, 6'	39.50

Close-Up and Macro

Oceanic NET-300 extension tube set for 35mm (2:1, 1:1, 1:2)	69.00
Oceanic extension tube and framer for 35UWN, specify (1:1)	29.50
Aquacraft extension tube and framer for 35UWN (1:2)	29.50
Aquacraft extension tube and framer for 35UWN (1:3)	29.50

Movie and Video

Eumig Nautica Super 8 camera w/wide adapter	149.00
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Chinon Super 8 camera w/Ikelite housing	79.00
JVC GXN-7U video camera, Olympus VC105 recorder w/battery charger and Ikelite housing	1799.00
Quasar VHS camcorder w/Ikelite housing, dome port and Sony Watchman	1999.00

Demo Close-Outs

Fujica P-2 Super 8 camera w/housing	NOW 59.00
Canon New Sure Shot w/Helix Auto Marine II housing	238.00
Reconditioned Nikon L35AF w/Helix Auto Marine II housing	209.00
Canon AV-1 w/28mm f2.8, winder A, Kamba demo hsg. w/dome port	399.00

...AND NEW

ACCESSORIES FOR THE DIVER

Helix audible water detector kit	29.95
Helix water detector kit with LED	39.95
Helix o-ring extractor tool kit	11.95
Helix o-ring set, specify Nikonos I, II, III, or V	3.95
Helix Super Silicone, 1 oz. bottle	5.95
Helix flipper key ring, blue	1.95
Aquacraft lanyard with brass clip	5.95
Beall reel, 100 ft. line with bronze snap	13.75
Beall lens protector	2.25
Beall hinged lens cover	6.75
Beall flash connector cover	2.55
Beall wrist lanyard with bronze snap	4.85
UR Pro Marine filter, 58mm	42.50

NEW EQUIPMENT

35mm CAMERAS AND ACCESSORIES

Canon Aqua Snappy AS-6 kit with accessory base, sportsfinder, film case, strap, close-up lens, frame and rod, plus waist bag and case	169.00
Canon Aqua Snappy AS-6	149.00

HOUSINGS AND ACCESSORIES

Aquatica 3N professional aluminum housing for Nikon F3 with motor drive	1495.00
Aquatica 3C professional aluminum housing for Canon F-1 (new) with motor drive	1495.00
TUS Pro-line housing for Nikon F3, req. optional port, strobe sync plug, arm mount	1050.00
TUS EO strobe connector	65.50
TUS Sealoc strobe connector	35.00
TUS macro port for 55mm	110.00
TUS macro port for 105mm	159.50
TUS dome port for 24mm	237.50
TUS dome port for 15mm	339.50
TUS dome port for 18° fisheye	449.50
TUS universal strobe arm mounting block, specify left or right (TUS, Oceanic)	9.50
Ewa U-F housing for 35mm SLR with winder, 8x5x6 1/4	64.50
Ewa U-FXP housing for 35mm SLR with winder, strobe, or zoom lens, 9x6x7 1/2	71.00
Ewa U-FPN housing for large 35mm SLR with large motor drive and lenses to 90mm, 8x6 1/2x6 1/2	77.50
Ewa U-FZ housing for SLR with winder and zoom	77.50
Ewa U-VB video housing for Sony, Sanyo Beta camcorders	130.00
Ewa U-VSAF video housing for Sony CCD-V8AF camcorder	130.00
Ewa U-VCAF video housing for Panasonic, Olympus style camcorders	130.00
Ewa U-VM video housing for Sony CCD-M8U Handycam	123.00
Ewa U-VHAF video housing for Hitachi, Minolta style camcorders	130.00

SUBSEA STROBES AND ACCESSORIES

Mark 150RG with charger and gel cell, EO	459.00
Mark 150RG with charger and gel cell, Nikonos III, IV, V	449.00
Mark 150, req. 510V battery, EO	459.00
Mark 150, req. 510V battery, Nikonos III, IV	449.00
Mark 100RG with charger and gel cell, EO	345.00
Mark 100RG with charger and gel cell, Nikonos III, IV, V	335.00
Mark 100, req. 300V battery, EO	329.00
Mark 100, req. 300V battery, Nikonos III, IV	315.00
Flexible arm	70.00
17" universal arm	66.00
Universal arm, blue	72.00
12" standard arm	52.00
Universal tray for Nikonos II, III, IV, V	22.25
2nd strobe bracket for universal tray	14.50
Nikonos II EO adapter	63.50
Nikonos III EO adapter	63.50

OTHER STROBES

Popular Aqua F-IIITTL w/tray and sync cord	269.00
Popular Aqua F-III with 2 auto range	183.50

HYDRO PHOTO STROBE ACCESSORIES

Cobra 27" flash arm with head adapter, specify type	75.00
Cobra 19" flash arm with head adapter, specify type	75.00

Base plate with handle, specify Nikonos I, II or III	24.95
Base plate for Nikonos IV, V	24.95
Base plate for Nikonos IV, V, with 2 arms	24.95

"GREEN THINGS" MACRO AND CLOSE-UP ACCESSORIES FOR NIKONOS

28mm Marine Eye adapter for 35mm	74.95
21mm Wide Eye adapter for 35mm	209.95
Fish Eye adapter for 35mm (150°) and 28mm (160°)	229.95
Close Eye V and framer for 35mm	59.95
Close Eye V and framer for 28mm	59.95
Close Eye II add-on lens for 35mm, 12-19.5"	48.00
Close Eye III add-on lens for 35mm, 7.75-10"	48.00
Close and wide set with extension tube 1:3, framer 1:3, and close-focus 28mm adapter	149.50
Close-up wand, recommend for Close Eye II, III	15.95

FINDERS FOR NIKONOS

Dacor optical viewfinder with 28, 35mm and blank masks	59.95
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LIGHT METERS

Sea & Sea light meter	87.95
Sekonic Marine Meter II	109.00
Sekonic L-158WH housing and meter	42.00
Sekonic L-188WH housing and meter	55.00

EQUIPMENT CASES AND BOXES

Helix equipment case with die-cut foam for Hanimex 35 or Sea & Sea and slave strobe, 14 1/2x9x4 1/2"	23.95
Helix equipment case with foam, 18x13x8"	44.95
Helix canvas accessory tote bag, 9x4x5"	8.95
Aquacraft "Goody" box, 3x5 1/2x8 1/2"	8.95
Aquacraft large mesh tote bag	24.00
Henderson canvas gear bag	11.95
Pelican Pelicase, black or grey, 12 1/4x9 1/4x5 1/2"	45.00
Pelican Pelicase, black or grey with strap, 17 1/2x11 1/4x6 1/2"	69.00
King Pelican case, black or grey, 22x17x8"	109.00
UW Kinetics large dry box, 9x7.1x6.3"	17.70
UW Kinetics small dry box, 9x7.1x4.5"	15.00
UW Kinetics mini dry box	10.65
Henderson gear bag	11.95

DIVE LIGHTS

Batteries not included with non-rechargeable lights.

Helix HUP-200 photo/dive light, rated to 200 feet	14.95
Helix HUP-200 with krypton lamp	19.95
Toshiba K-133 flashlight, rated to 165 feet	29.95
UW Kinetics Super Q with charger, clear	57.50
UW Kinetics Super QXL3R with charger, blue	52.00
UW Kinetics Super QXL3, blue	21.00
UW Kinetics nylon belt pouch	11.00
UW Kinetics universal holder with rubber straps	13.00
UW Kinetics universal holder with velcro	15.00

MOTION PICTURE CAMERAS AND ACCESSORIES

Eumig Nautica 18 fps camera	189.00
Helix Nautica single light mount	32.00
Helix Nautica double light mount	39.95
Fuji P2 single 8 camera and housing	99.00

FILM SPECIALS

Fuji single 8 50 ft., daylight ISO 50 with processing	10.50
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Fuji single 8 50 ft., tungsten ISO 200 with processing	12.50
Kodachrome CP135-36 exp., ASA 100	2.50
Kodachrome KM135-36 exp. w/mailler, ASA 25 (short date)	6.75
Fujichrome 135-36 exp., ASA 50	5.00

AUDIO-VISUAL EQUIPMENT AND ACCESSORIES

Telex Caramate 3270 Sound Slide Projector

Offers compatibility with Kodak lenses and slide trays, and features automatic focusing, remote control, interval timer and a hi/lo lamp. Includes an audio cassette tape system that senses program cue pulses and automatically stops or advances the slide tray. Balanced sound is fed evenly through a built-in speaker. Special tone, volume and restart buttons allow for subtle adjustment in the presentation without distracting the viewer. 1000Hz.

3270 Sound slide projector plus cassette cassette playback	680.00
3270/AY-2000 Sound slide projector plus Apollo 100-150mm f3.5	749.00

Telex Caramate 3280 Sound Dissolve Projector

Offers the features of the 3270 plus fade and dissolve functions for a more professional-looking presentation. May be connected with other Caramate or Kodak Carousel models for two-projector presentations. Includes dissolve control. 1000Hz.

3280 Sound dissolve projector plus record	855.00
3280/AY-2000 Sound dissolve projector plus Apollo 100-150mm f3.5	924.00

Helix Storage Sleeves

An inexpensive and sensible way to store your slides. Each page measures 8 1/2x11" and is made of tough, clear vinyl with a 3-hole margin for three-ring binders.

Storage sleeves	.45 each
20-99 sheets	.35 each
100+ sheets	.30 each

Storage Sleeve TL-20

Holds 20 2x2" mounted slides, loads from the top. Clear front and translucent back.

Archival Storage Sleeve 7000-A

Same as storage sleeve TL-20 but is made of clear polyethylene.

Storage Sleeve JV-20

Same as storage sleeve TL-20, but the slides load from the side.

Helix Viewing Lupes

42300 Round lupe, 5X	7.00
42301 Round lupe, 10X	8.00
42301 Square lupe, 10X	12.00

Helix 3-Ring Binders

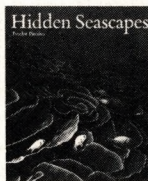
Holds 50 storage pages. Available in black or white.

3-ring binder (specify color)	3.95
3 binders for	10.00

The Helix A/V Department carries a wide range of audio visual equipment for your home or business presentation. Please call for information on items not listed.

Prices subject to change without notice.

Recommended Reading for Underwater Photographers



On Photography . . .

- Beginner's Guide to Photography
Underwater, by Ron Church 5.50
- Choosing and Using Underwater
Strobes, by Jim and Cathy Church 7.95
- Disc Underwater Photography,
by Gale Livers 5.95
- Diver Magazine's Underwater
Photo Logbook 14.95
- The Greatest Adventure—
Photography, by Tom Mount 24.95
- Howard Hall's Successful
Underwater Photography 14.95
- Mastering Underwater
Photography, by Carl Roessler 9.95
- NEW!** The Nikonos Handbook,
by Jim and Cathy Church 18.95
- The definitive how-to book on effectively
using Nikonos IV and V cameras. Includes
a handy section on field repair.
- NEW!** Nikonos Underwater Cue Cards,
by Jim and Cathy Church 12.95
- Underwater Photography for Everyone,
by Flip Schulke 17.95

On Dive Locations . . .

- Baja California Diver's Guide,
by Michael and Lauren Farley 12.95
- California Dive Boat Guide and
Diver's Log 4.95
- Cayman, Underwater Paradise,
by Pitcairn and Humann 15.95
- Diver's Almanac: Scuba Diving on the
West Coast 18.95
- A Diver's Guide to Asian Waters,
by Lockhart, Smith and Westlake 15.00
- Diver's Guide to the Philippines,
by Smith and Westlake 11.95
- Diver's Guide to Underwater America,
by Kelley and Shobe 14.95
- NEW!** Dive Hawaii 2.95
- Diving and Snorkeling Guide to
Florida Keys 8.95
- Diving and Snorkeling Guide to
Hawaiian Islands 8.95
- Diving and Snorkeling Guide to
Virgin Islands 8.95
- Diving and Snorkeling Guide to
Grand Cayman 8.95
- Diving and Snorkeling Guide to
Cozumel 8.95
- Diving and Snorkeling Guide to
Bonaire, Aruba and Curacao 8.95
- Diving and Snorkeling Guide to
Bahamas, Nassau and New
Providence Island 8.95
- Guide to the Bonaire Marine Park,
by Tom Van T'Hof 14.95
- Guide to the Curacao Underwater Park,
by T'Hof and Cornet 3.95
- Landfalls of Paradise: The Guide to
Pacific Islands, by Earl Hinz 29.95

- 141 Dives in the Protected Waters of
Washington and British Columbia,
by B. Johnson 11.95
- Sea of Cortez Guide, by Dix Brow 19.95

On Shells . . .

- The Audubon Society Field Guide to
North American Seashells 13.50
- NEW!** The Collector's Encyclopedia of
Shells, 2nd edition,
by S. Peter Dance 24.95
- Over 2000 species are dealt with in this
comprehensive worldwide reference work,
with more than 1500 detailed color
photos integrated into the text.
- Collectible Florida Shells,
by R. Tucker Abbott and
S. Peter Dance 50.00
- Conchs, Tibias and Harps,
by Jerry Walls 14.95
- Cone Shells, by Jerry Walls 39.95
- Cowries, by Jerry Walls 24.95
- Murex Shells of the World,
by Radwin and D'Attilio 38.50
- Pacific Sea Shells,
by Spencer Wilkie Tinker 7.95
- NEW!** Sea Shell Treasures of the
Caribbean 19.95

Of General Interest . . .

- Advanced First Aid Afloat, second edition,
by Peter Eastman 6.00
- Anemonefishes of the World,
by Gerald R. Allen 20.00
- Atlas of Aquatic Dermatology
by Alexander Fisher 32.50
- Australian Sea Fishes South of 30° South,
by Neville Coleman 29.50
- Australian Sea Fishes North of 30° South,
by Neville Coleman 32.50
- Butterflyfishes of the World,
by Warren Burgess 29.95
- Caribbean Reef Fishes,
by John Randall 29.95
- Complete Guide to Underwater Modeling,
by Mount and Schaeffer 9.95
- NEW!** Commercial Diving Manual,
by Larn and Whistler 39.95
- Provides information included on the
compulsory national syllabus for the
commercial diving exam.
- Corals of the World,
by Dr. Elizabeth Wood 29.95
- Damselfishes of the South Seas,
by Gerald Allen 19.95
- Dangerous Marine Animals that Bite,
Sting, Shock, are Non-edible, second
edition, by Bruce Halsted, MD 15.00
- The Decompression Workbook,
by George Lewbel 5.95
- Diver's Handbook of Underwater
Calculations, by Wayne Tucker 10.00

- Diving and Subaquatic Medicine,
by Edmonds, Lowry and
Pennefeather 34.50
- NEW!** Dolphins and Porpoises,
by Richard Ellis 25.00
- Field Guide to Coral Reefs of the
Caribbean and Florida,
by Eugene Kaplan 17.95
- NEW!** Field Guide to the Marine Life of
South Australia 17.50
- Fishes: An Introduction to Ichthyology,
by Moyle and Cech 40.95
- Fishes of the Gulf of Mexico,
by Hoese and Moore 9.95
- Fishwatcher's Guide to West Atlantic
Coral Reefs, by Charles Chaplin,
plastic coated 10.95
- Florida's Golden Galleons,
by Burgess and Clausen 12.50
- The reconstructed story of a Spanish
treasure fleet that sank in 1715 with 14
million pesos in gold, silver and jewelry.
- The Great Barrier Reef, by I. Bennett 45.00
- Guide to the Nudibranchs of California,
by McDonald and Nybakken 13.95
- NEW!** Hidden Seascapes,
by Feodor Pitcairn 70.00
- Filled with stunning color photos of the
undersea environment, the author also
provides interesting facts on the animals
and plants shown.
- Philippine Shore Fishes of the Western
Sulu Sea, by Robert Schroder 39.95
- Samantha, by David Pilosof 19.95
- The first book ever devoted to capturing
the nude female form underwater.
- Scuba Diving in Safety and Health,
by Christopher Dueker, MD 11.95
- Scuba Equipment Care and Maintenance,
by Farley and Roger 9.95
- Sharks and Rays—A Handbook of the Sharks
and Rays of Hawaii and the Central
Pacific Ocean 7.25
- The Sharks of North American Waters,
by Jose Castro 9.95
- Shipwrecks: Diving the Graveyard of the
Atlantic, by Roderick Farb 12.95
- Shipwrecks of the Truk,
by Philip Alan Rosenberg 14.95
- Touch the Sea, by Dee Scarr 12.95
- A true personal experience profiling
techniques used during diving classes and
tours by dive guide Dee Scarr.
- The Undersea Predators,
by Carl Roessler 24.95
- Within a Rainbow Sea,
by Christopher Newbert 59.95
- This award-winning book contains 194
richly colored plates, along with techni-
cal background on each photo.
- WWII Wrecks of the Kwajalein and Truk
Lagoons, by Dan Bailey 15.95

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DOLPHIN SOCIETY

The Dolphin Society is attempting to stop the killing of whales and dolphins by building permanent communities on ships and islands. The communities will devote their resources to rescuing dolphins and whales from fishing net entanglements, harpoons and ocean pollution. There are many historical accounts of rescues and close friendships between people and dolphins. By rescuing and befriending dolphins, the communities will gather dolphin members. Community members have already made friends with several free dolphins.

The communities will practice a dolphin-like lifestyle: a peaceful, sharing, caring, playful culture.

People can join the Dolphin Society in group swims with wild dolphins or by joining a well established dolphin-like community on oceanfront land in Hawaii. Call the Dolphin Society at (213) 328-2032 for more information. ✕

CLIC

Captain's License Information Center, Inc., has opened a Miami office adjacent to the Coast Guard's Seventh District Headquarters. CLIC will serve as a no-charge information depot for visitors in the downtown Miami area interested in Coast Guard licensing and certification.

The office will maintain program information provided by any Coast Guard prep or certification school in the country. Thus, with one stop a visitor can make informed decisions about how best to prepare for his/her future.

Counselors at the CLIC office are familiar with Coast Guard licensing regulations. These professionals will provide consultation and can assist with evaluation of boating experience. They can also help in completion of Coast Guard forms.

The CLIC address is 117 1/2 Miami Avenue, Miami, FL 33130 and the telephone number is (305) 372-9696. The office is operated by Sea School—The Law School of the Sea, whose St. Petersburg toll free number is (800) 237-8663; in Florida (800) 282-2278. ✕

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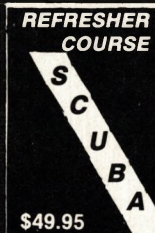
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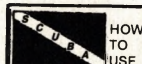
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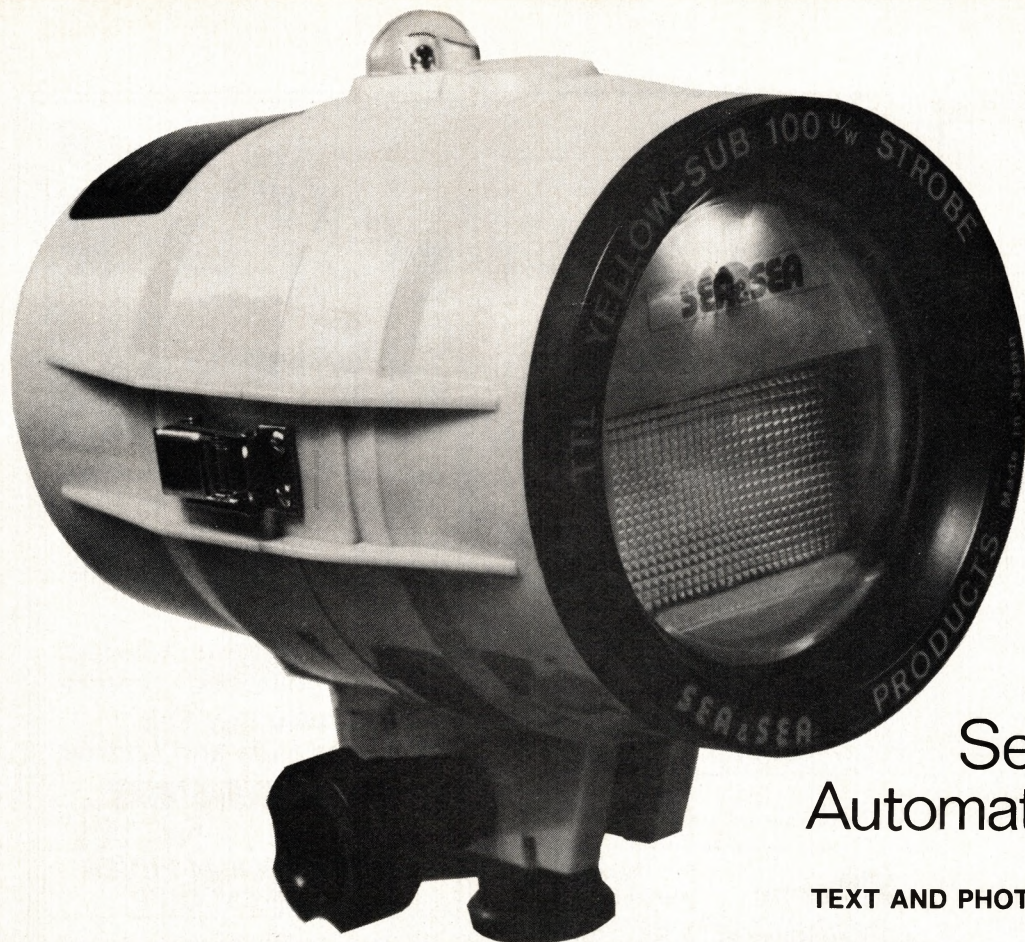
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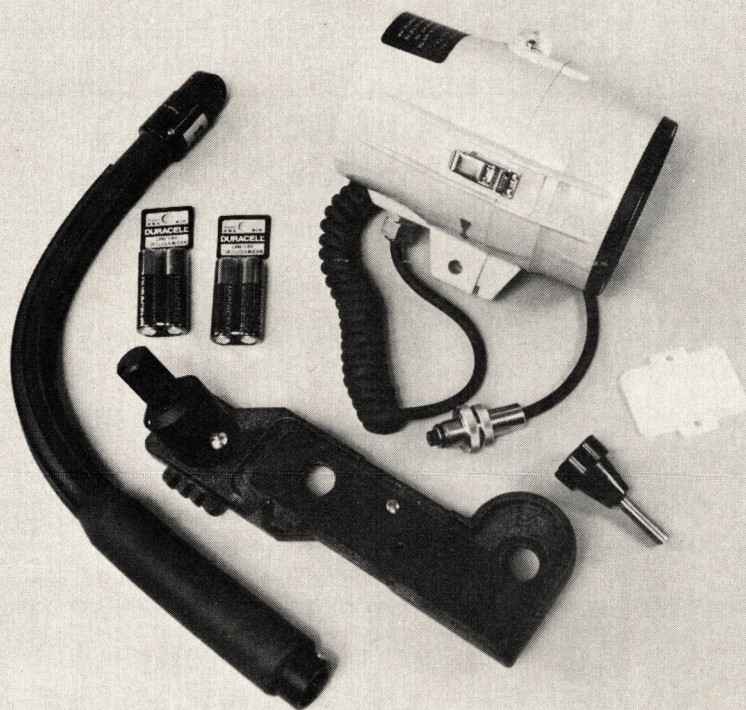
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YELLOW SUB 100 TTL

Sea & Sea's New Automatic Mini Strobe

TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY BY GERI MURPHY



Driven by a computer chip, the YS-100 "thinks" like an underwater photographer. It can be operated in manual, slave or TTL modes. Three switches are tied directly into the digital aperture window and distance scale. Turning any one of the three will immediately calculate the precise aperture for correct exposure. The complete strobe system includes: Nikonos baseplate, flexible strobe arm, four AA cells, strobe (with sync cord), flash diffuser and strobe attachment bolt.

Sea & Sea of Japan has just introduced its new TTL mini strobe with automatic flash exposure. This comes with all the bells and whistles imaginable, plus a few exciting innovations.

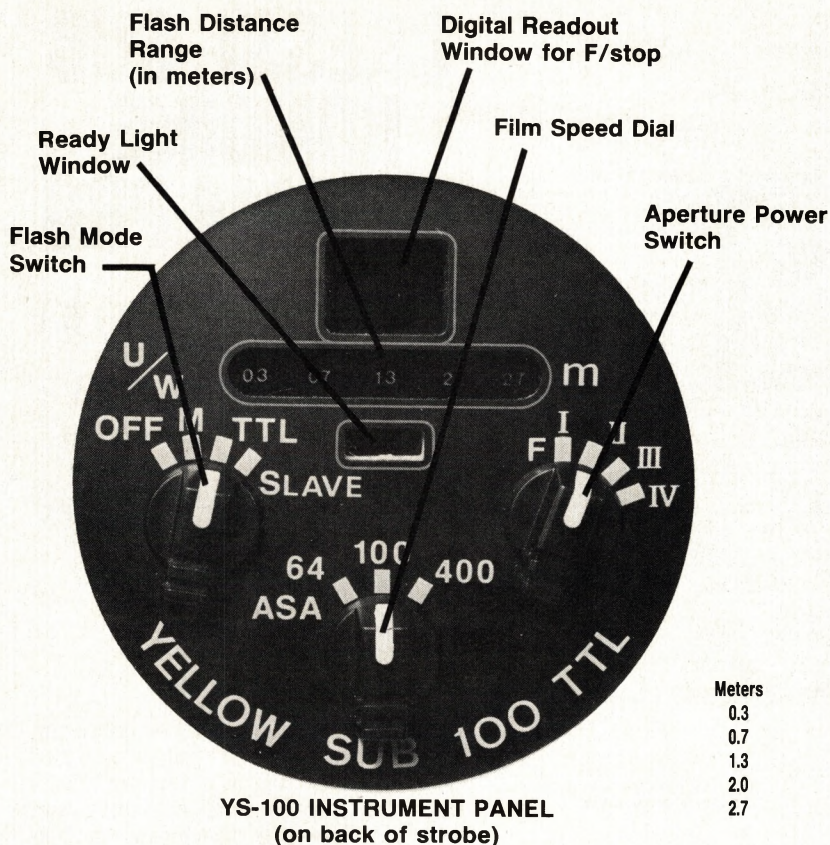
Known as the Yellow Sub 100 TTL (YS-100), this new strobe is packaged in a bright yellow plastic housing with a dome front port. The flash reflector is rectangular in shape and provides an angle of coverage of 50 by 70 degrees. This is ample coverage for either the Nikonos 35 or 28mm lenses. Adding a diffuser inside the strobe will widen the angle of coverage to accommodate the Nikonos 20 and 15mm lenses.

The strobe is powered by four AA batteries. It will run on either alkalines or rechargeable nickel-cadmiums. A fresh set of alkalines will produce 130 flashes at full manual power or several hundred flashes on TTL automatic.

Recycle time for alkalines is one-half second to a maximum of eight seconds on the auto flash mode. Rechargeable batteries recycle a couple of seconds faster. A ready light in the center of the strobe's back panel indicates when the strobe is ready to fire.

There is a rotary switch (left switch) on the back of the strobe for three flash modes: M for full manual power, TTL for automatic integrated flash with the Nikonos V, and Slave for remote sync flash. A slave sensor is mounted on top of the strobe for omni-directional triggering.

The YS-100 has a fascinating instru-



Meters	Feet
0.3	0.98
0.7	2.30
1.3	4.27
2.0	6.56
2.7	8.86

ment panel on the back of it. All controls and readouts are mounted in one area for convenient viewing and operation. There is a flash mode switch (left) with three settings, a film speed dial (center) with three ISO settings and an aperture mode switch (right) with four power ranges.

A large digital readout window at the top of the panel indicates the proper aperture setting for the lens. Below this is a horizontal window with the distance range for automatic exposure. Both windows display bright, glowing red LED numbers that can be easily viewed under all diving conditions. In the center of the panel is the ready light. The combination of these three switches and three instrument readouts affords a wide range of exposure capabilities and less chance for error in setting the exposure controls.

The YS-100 is the first of a new breed of "smart strobes" for underwater use. Driven by a computer chip, this little gem "thinks" like an underwater photographer. The three switches are tied directly into the digital aperture window and distance scale. Turning any one of the three will immediately calculate the precise aperture for correct exposure.

The YS-100 is designed to operate on either manual power or TTL. All of the switches and readouts will function in either mode. Setting up the YS-100 for TTL automatic exposure is simple and straightforward. First, set the center switch to the ISO film speed corresponding to the film in the camera. Second, set the flash mode switch (left) to TTL. Third, dial the aperture mode switch (right) to the distance range at which you plan to shoot. The digital indicator window then spells out the correct f/stop for the lens.

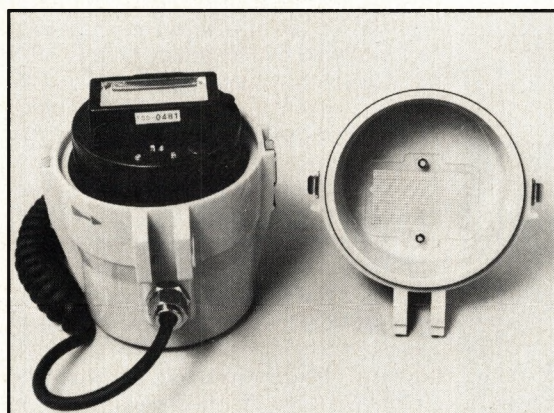
When the strobe is fired, a beep will indicate a correct exposure has been taken. If this is not heard, it means the distance setting is probably wrong and should be readjusted for the next picture.

The YS-100 is one of the smartest and easiest TTL strobes to operate. It sets up your shot and tells you whether or not you got it! What more could you possibly ask for?

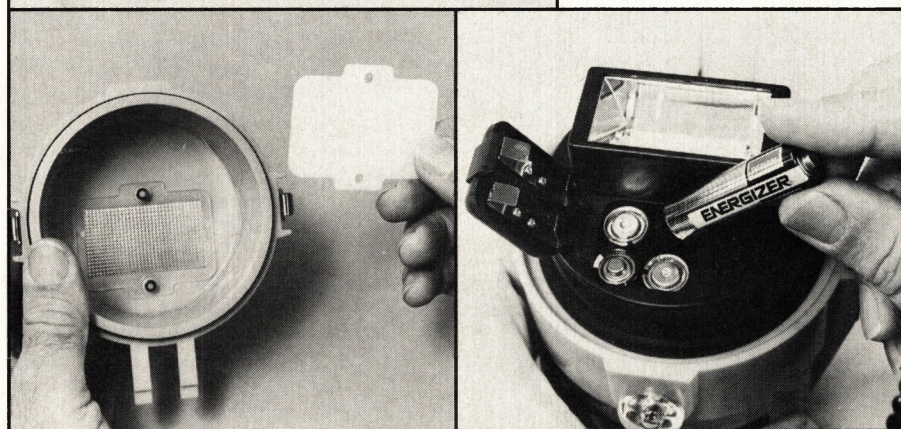
The strobe is ideal for most types of Nikonos photography from macro, to close-up, to standard 35mm, to 28mm. It is a good, all-around strobe with moderate power output. The only drawback we could find is the distance scale readout window is in meters instead of feet. It takes a little practice to mentally convert meters to feet.

The YS-100 sells for \$755 and comes complete with a flexible flash arm and Nikonos tray. A set of AA alkaline batteries and a wide angle diffuser are also included. The strobe alone is \$575.

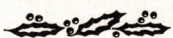
For more information see your local dive store dealer or contact: Sea & Sea USA Inc., 975 West 17th Street, Riviera Beach, FL 33404; (305) 844-8937.



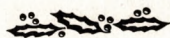
Above: Here, the YS-100 switches are set for TTL, ASA (ISO) 100 film speed and an aperture power range of II. In actual use (batteries inserted), the digital readout window will show the correct f/stop and the appropriate numbers will light up in the flash distance range window. In this example these might be f/8 and 0.3-2.0 meters, depending on subject reflectivity and lens used.



The forward half of the strobe is removed to access batteries, insert the flash diffuser or to plug in the charger when using nickel-cadmium cells. The flash diffuser widens the flash to cover the angle of a 15 or 18mm lens. Using the diffuser will reduce the flash range one notch, ex: 0.3-2.0 meters becomes 0.3-1.3.



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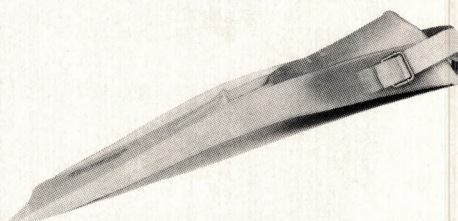
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CRESSI-SUB RONDINE GAMMA PRO

Good Looks In A Power Fin



TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHY
BY BONNIE J. CARDONE

Many bemoan the replacement of natural materials with synthetics. In dive gear, however, this is not necessarily a bad thing. Replacing natural rubber with plastic, for example, has resulted in lighter weight, more resilient fins that come in a rainbow of colors. They are also easier to travel with because they won't add a lot of weight to your baggage. The pair of fins shown on this page, for example, with footpocket inserts, weighs just 3 pounds, 9 ounces. An older pair of neoprene fins—the same size—weighs almost one pound more.

The last few years have seen a proliferation of plastic fins and Cressi-sub's Rondine Gamma Pro is one of the newest entries in the fin field. These have a translucent, thermoplastic blade with a pale blue tint. The generous foot pocket of the Gamma is also thermoplastic. It is soft, flexible and very comfortable. It comes in lemon yellow, bright blue and black. Pretty is not a word I could have used to describe fins several years ago, but these fins are pretty. The translucent blade and colorful foot pocket are bound to enhance U/W photos in which they appear.

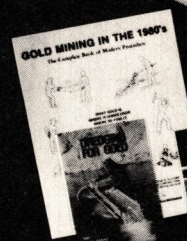
Lest you think the Cressi Rondine Gamma is just for photographic models, let me point out this is a vented fin: Its design and blade materials are intended to produce a power kick. At this writing, it was available in two sizes. The medium fits shoe sizes 7-9; the large fits sizes 10-13. According to Cressi-sub, in 1987 the Rondine Gamma Pro will also be available in a new color, pink; a new size, small; and a new material, graphite.

Some plastic fins are so long it is hard to find luggage into which they will fit. The Rondine Gamma is only 18 inches long and 8 inches wide. Thus, it should pack easily in almost any standard sized gear bag or suitcase.

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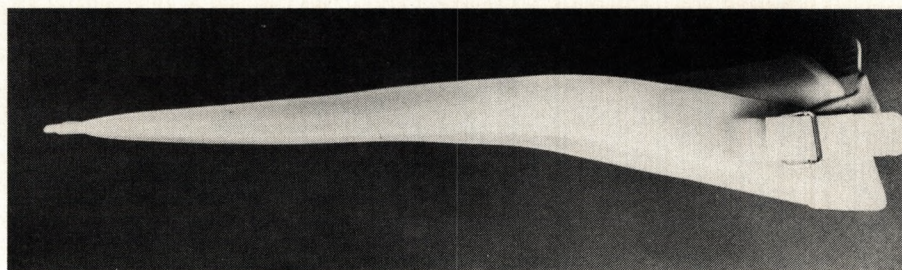
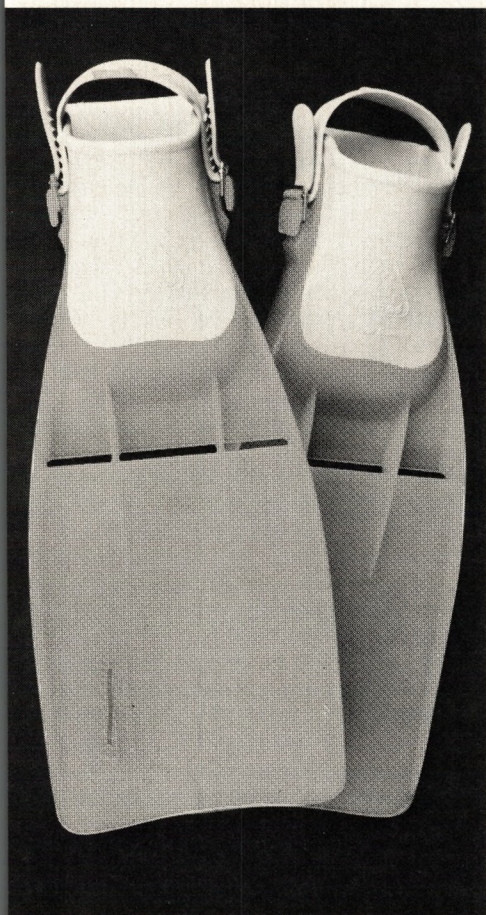
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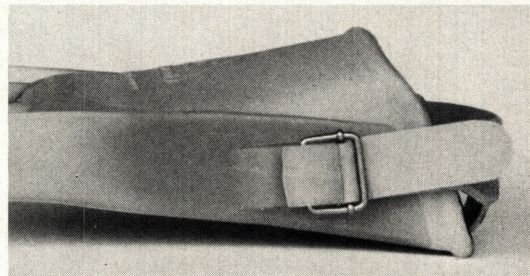
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stainless steel buckles and straps that match the footpocket in color and material. Thermoplastic fins have one additional advantage: They float in saltwater.

I took the Rondine Gamma Pro along on a two day trip aboard Truth Aquatics' *Conception*. I liked their noticeably lighter weight. And, they produced the same power kick I get from my older pair of vented neoprene fins.

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EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 6)

resorts have the courage to identify their programs and trips as for either beginning or advanced divers. A dive trip cannot be all things to all people. The snow skiing industry went through the same problem and finally settled on a rating system of beginner, intermediate and expert ski runs. Maybe dive resorts will adopt a similar system.

What can you do in the meantime? Ask a lot of questions when shopping for your next dive vacation. At least now you know what to look for. You might also request the full name of the person answering your questions. The answers are likely to be more accurate when you've got his/her name.

If you keep running into a brick wall, try contacting a specialty travel agent—someone in the business of planning vacations specifically for divers. You'll find many of these agents advertising in the pages of SKIN DIVER. These people have first hand knowledge of many different kinds of resorts and can help you select one best suited for your needs.

WRECK FACTS

(Continued from Page 14)

Richard Ray, my man in Costa Rica, reports more shipwreck discoveries and artifact recoveries in shallow waters off Phantom Isle Lodge. "We brought up some items from what's left of a 1930s wreck," Richard reports, "and the strange thing is that it appears to be on top of an even older wreck. We found some coins and a sword in this same area that is inhabited by snapper, grouper, mantas, golden pargo and even whales." If you're interested in wrecks off Costa Rica, Richard may be reached at P.O. Box 558, Manvel, TX 77578.

Carl Welch works with the McChord Air Museum, McChord Air Force Base near Tacoma, Washington. He's trying to locate aircraft that went down in Moses Lake, central Washington and in Lake Washington in Seattle. He is presently searching Moses Lake for a P-51 Mustang lost in February 1952 from Larson Air Base, now Grant County Airport. If you have any data or wish to exchange information on sunken aircraft, contact Carl Welch, Boeing Aerospace Company, P.O. Box 3999, MS 2E73, Seattle, Washington 98124.

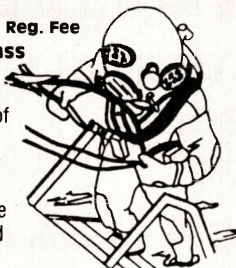
John Amrhein, Jr., Salisbury, Maryland was so inspired by his pursuit of a Span-

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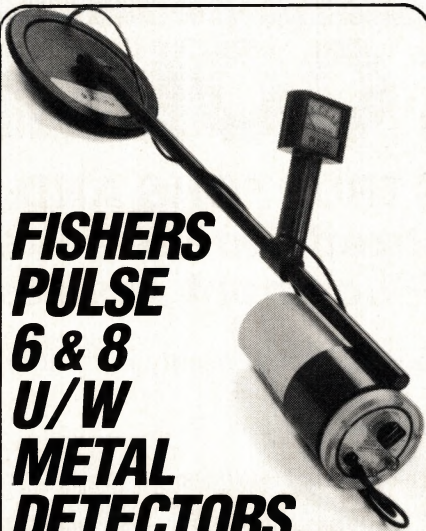
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ish warship wrecked off the coast of Maryland in 1750 that he reconstructed a map of the seacoast as he thought it might look in the early days. The real maps of the 17th and 18th centuries were so inaccurate and devoid of detail that John made some conclusions and drew his own. This inspired him to draw and publish a sea chart: The Ancient Seacoast of Maryland, Including Parts of Delaware and Virginia. This 38 x 25 inch chart is fascinating with its representation of the legendary Spanish galleon wrecked on Assateague Island with horses swimming ashore. (The popular Assateague ponies are supposed to be descendants of these shipwrecked horses.) Many other interesting events are chronicled on the chart, which sells for \$13.50 plus \$1.50 postage. It is available from John Amrhein, Jr., Ryan and Black Publishers, P.O. Box 2918, Salisbury, Maryland 21801.

There is a new quarterly publication out, called Archipelago, that features subjects of interest to people who enjoy the marine environment. Scientific editor Robert Stafford writes that it is aimed more at divers than fishermen and boaters. He says subjects of interest to divers will be nautical archaeology, the Great Barrier Reef, how to train dolphins and various aspects of ocean science. For further information contact Robert Stafford, Society for Ocean Studies, P.O. Box 266, Key Colony Beach, FL 33051.

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FUN SET SUIT

(Continued from Page 36)

the parts to a Reversible Fun Set Suit with accessories, the possible color combinations range from sublime to frightening!

Harvey's suits are made in the U.S.A. and have been since 1957. The Reversible Fun Set Suit is made of Softstretch® nylon two neoprene, which will flex and give with movement and adapts to individual body contours for a warm, close fit. Seams are triple glued and blind stitched for strength and waterproofing. Seam ends are bar-tacked to prevent thread unraveling. All edges of material (cuffs, collars, zippers) are trimmed with stitching to prevent the splitting or delamination of the nylon backing.

The step-in, sleeveless shorty top features a Velcro® closing strap on one shoulder for easy entry. There is no zipper, and the Softstretch material allows a comfortable fit in the crotch area. The jumpsuit has a raised collar for increased warmth and full length raglan sleeves. There is a YKK nylon zipper down the chest. This does not have a neoprene backing (because the suit reverses) and this is why the shorty doesn't have a zipper. The shorty is normally worn under the jumpsuit rather than over. The jumpsuit also features embossed knee pads. This allows easy bending of the leg and is especially valuable in watersports such as boogie boarding, where kneeling is the primary position used.

Underwater models will find the colorful, attractive Reversible Fun Set Suit offers them the flexibility necessary for shoots in varied locations with variously colored backgrounds and accessory gear. Other divers will appreciate it for the variety of uses it offers. Either way, six in one is a good deal. The suits are available in standard sizes from extra small to super extra large (1/8 inch—\$311.60, 3/16 inch—\$327.60, 1/4 inch—\$353.80). Although the shorty is available in 1/4 inch, normally you would use a combination: 1/4 inch jumpsuit with 3/16 inch shorty or 3/16 inch jumpsuit with 1/8 inch shorty. As with all Harvey's suits, personalized, custom fits are available at additional charge. See the Reversible Fun Set Suits and other Harvey's wet and drysuits at your dive store.

NOVURANIA MX 570

(Continued from Page 48)

seats (enough for 11 passengers) with storage lockers underneath.

If the MX 570 is hoisted, it should be accomplished with slings, as no lifting eyes are furnished. However, there is a stainless steel towing eye bolted to the stern (bow); two stainless towing eyes se-

cured to the transom; one D-ring on each side amidship near the top of the tubes; four smaller D-rings and four large molded handles on the outboard side of each tube. Lifelines run along the tops of the tubes. The latter are not lines, the nautical term for ropes, but straps that appear to be of the same fabric as the tubes.

Aft is a bench type seat with a folding back. It spans the width of the boat and can accommodate four people comfortably, including the operator. Lifting the seat allows access to a very large compartment, conveniently located to store and hide from view the fuel tank, paddles and other boating necessities. Attached to the tops of the rear tubes, on a long base of support, are the bottom members of the stainless steel light bar. The light bar itself starts at these supports, rises upward at a rear slanting angle and arches, athwart, over the stern of the MX 570. The stern light is at the very top and the running lights are at either side. Also, unobtrusively secured to the light bar is the furled awning, which, when opened, can protect some of the boat's passengers from the hot sun or precipitation. Standard features of this boat include a carrying capacity of 11 persons; a payload of 3,200 pounds. In addition to the equipment already mentioned, there is a pressure gauge, foot pump, drain plugs for the bilge and a repair kit.

It's easy to see why the Novurania MX 570 has been so well accepted in Europe. It's a beautiful boat, albeit still a little unusual for conservative Newport. Our passage through the harbor was both pleasant and trying on that gorgeous Sunday morning. More than just a few heads turned to witness our passing. But the journey out to the breakwater was trying, too, knowing that this boat was capable of literally flying over the water's surface, but realizing that we'd better not exceed the posted speed limit. Just sitting in the water, as on the trailer, this MX 570 looks fast! We didn't need to attract more attention from the Harbor Patrol.

Joining Scott and me were Pete Ely, also of Port-A-Marine, who operated the chase boat and Jan Tunnicliff, Ed and Sandy Fieser, from the Sculpin Dive Club in Long Beach, CA. The MX 570 was very comfortable on the trip through the harbor and continued to be so even after we hit the open sea and Scott pushed the throttle forward. The boat quickly planed and skimmed across the surface. We estimated our speed to be between 40 and 50 knots. That's not too bad for an 85 hp Suzuki DT85 engine—the recommended horsepower for this boat is 100. Obviously, there was some bouncing, as the deep V-hull sliced some of the high spots between Newport and Laguna, but the ride was not bone jarring, as one might expect at these speeds, and very little spray came aboard. This was one fun test run. Later, I took the wheel for a few tight turns and speed runs: The MX 570 handled

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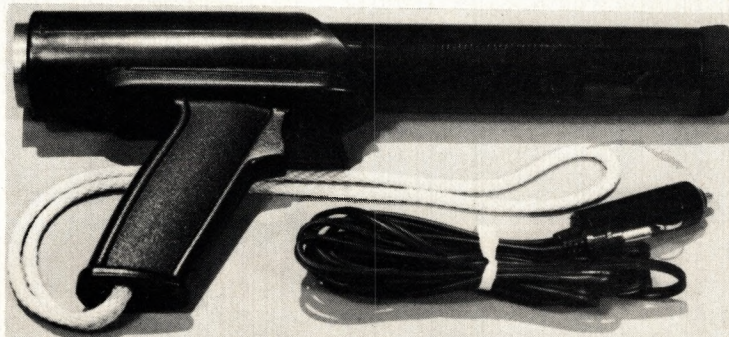
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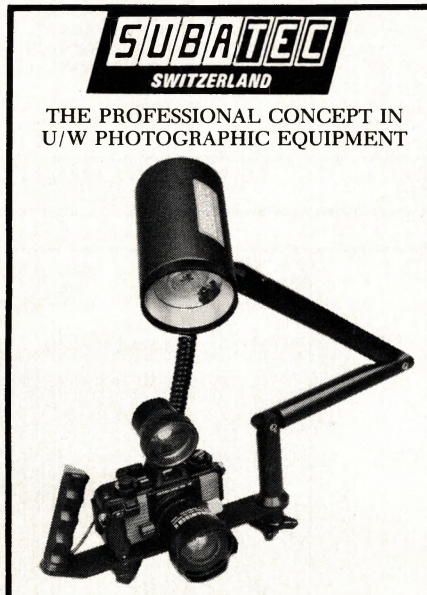
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NOVURANIA MX 570

very well, taking the turns with practically no sideslip and the straight-aways with true tracking.

Up to now we were having so much fun we almost forgot the diving. Pulling up to a reef, the engine was killed and the divers started withdrawing their equipment from the storage compartments under some of the seats. If there is a drawback to this boat it must be the limited deck space. A lot of the area between the tubes is taken up by the cushioned seats. Of course there are advantages, too, to having civilized seating for passengers in addition to storage space for equipment beneath them. With just a little coordination this boat could easily accommodate four to six divers very nicely. Entries and exits proved to be no problem. Exits are decidedly easier if the tank is taken off while in the water and tied to a D-ring or lifeline or handed to someone on board.

Besides "exciting," I can add another "E"—for enthusiasm: By me, for the Novurania MX 570. I think it's a grand boat. Some divers may think the U.S. price of \$12,950 is a bit steep, however. But, when you consider the quality of the materials and craftsmanship, the five year limited warranty (one year on the fiberglass hull), as well as the large size and increased safety, speed, fun, versatility and prestige on the water, that price seems quite reasonable. The Novurania MX 570 might really expand your diving and boating horizons. The Riviera, anyone? >#

TITANIC

(Continued from Page 35)

Bahamas. The fish became trapped in the sub's skin and was brought to the surface whole. The vehicle was again attacked in the Bahamas in 1971. This time a marlin damaged *Alvin's* lights and "sail." Woods Hole reported the marlin did "much damage to itself."

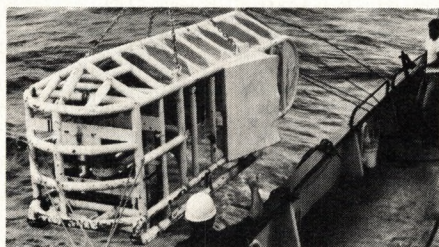
Alvin has been overhauled several times and very little of the original vehicle



is left. In 1968 it sank in 1,535 meters of water and remained there for 10 months until the weather was right and the needed equipment had been assembled for her recovery.

In her career, *Alvin* has made 1,663 dives, carrying 2,754 people. Her average depth per dive is 5,612 feet and each one lasts an average of 6.07 hours. Biology and geology have been the reasons for most of her dives. Her maximum operating depth is 13,000 feet.

This year, photographs of the *Titanic* were taken by Jason Jr. and Angus. The 150 pound Jason Jr. is just 20 inches high, 27 inches wide and 28 inches long. It carries both high resolution color video

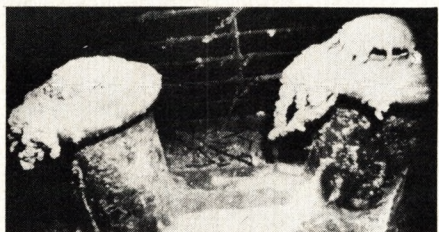


The sled-like Angus was designed to work in rugged volcanic terrain. It carries three 35mm color cameras and maintains continuous visual contact with the seafloor.

and still cameras. The little unmanned robot attaches to *Alvin* by a 250 foot electrical tether and operates on power supplied by *Alvin's* batteries. Jason Jr. can dive to 20,000 feet.

The sled-like Angus, operated by personnel aboard the *Atlantis II*, was also utilized on the *Titanic* expedition. Developed by Woods Hole more than a decade ago, Angus is an acronym for Acoustically Navigated Geological Underwater Survey. It was the first search and survey system developed by Woods Hole and can work to depths of 20,000 feet. Angus has a heavy duty steel frame that protects its three 35mm color cameras. Each of these carries 400 feet of film and the three together can take 3,200 photos on every dive. The three cameras cover 200 feet of seafloor. Angus has a down-looking sonar that permits the person manipulating it to "fly" it a set distance above the seafloor.

The Woods Hole team did not bring any *Titanic* artifacts to the surface, although many were found. The expedition



The bollards shown here were used to secure mooring lines. They were photographed on the starboard side of the bow.

was part of a Woods Hole/U.S. Navy contract to develop deepsea diving research and exploration vehicles.

Woods Hole's Dr. Ballard says he has "no desire" to return to the shipwreck. He and his scientists spent a total of 33 hours on her. They photographed every area of the ship and the debris field behind it. Eventually, 100 of the 57,000 color pictures taken will be used to form a photomosaic of the *Titanic*. Perhaps some day they will also release a video tape of the Queen of the Deep.

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DIVING MEDICINE

(Continued from Page 16)

special ultrasonic instruments that can monitor the blood by sending sound waves through the chest and into the heart. As the volume of free nitrogen in the body increases, there are signs of tissue injury. The milder forms of DCS show up as pain in joints. The pain is a dull ache and may be felt in the knee, elbow, shoulder, wrist or any other joint. The location of the bubbles is unknown, but theories about bubbles in tendon sheaths or joint spaces seem to be the best choice. The bubbles stretch and distort tissues, causing injury and pain. The pain of DCS is rapidly relieved by treatment in a pressure chamber. All types of DCS require a pressure chamber for therapy. Excellent results can be expected in a case of DCS involving only the joints.

The other form of DCS is more serious. This involves the spinal cord and brain and can result in permanent disability from damage to nerves in the spinal cord that control motion of the legs, action of the bladder or bowel and the sensation of touch in the legs and feet. When this injury is severe, a diver can become permanently crippled. Damage to the spinal cord is seen frequently in sport divers with DCS. The reason that sport divers are prone to this injury is not clear. Some researchers think it has to do with short deep dives. Most other divers dive longer and deeper—sometimes with helium—and seem to be more likely to develop a pain type of DCS. Because sport divers are likely to have a spinal cord injury if they get DCS, safe diving practices are extremely important.

We have also discovered that damage to the spinal cord is not only caused by bubbles in the tissues. There are other changes that occur in DCS that cause the blood to clot rapidly and blood vessels to constrict. These two events aggravate the blockage of blood vessels and distortion of tissues and accelerate tissue damage.

Because of these additional effects, we generally treat DCS involving the spinal cord with pressure, oxygen and several medicines that are given to minimize blood clotting and vessel constriction. These medicines include intravenous fluids, cortisone-type drugs and, sometimes, blood thinners. The procedures for treatment are all done at once. A diver with DCS undergoing treatment is likely to be placed in a pressure chamber, given oxygen to breathe and an intravenous line to infuse fluids and other medicines. The pressure treatment is normally at 60 feet depth and oxygen is breathed in 20 minute intervals with five minute air breaks to avoid oxygen toxicity. A chamber treatment for spinal cord DCS lasts about five hours. Treatment may be ex-

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tended by rehabilitation to strengthen weak leg muscles or by additional chamber treatments.

MINIMIZING RISK OF DCS

With the specter of permanent leg or bladder paralysis awaiting the careless, it is incumbent on all divers to learn the use of decompression tables and follow conservative diving practices to minimize the risk of DCS. The most important rule is to stay within no decompression limits when sport diving. The tables that require decompression stops are used most by surface supplied commercial or military divers who have a large support team and a chamber nearby if they develop DCS. These amenities are not available to the sport diver, yet the same risks are present. To reduce risk, you should use shorter bottom times than the limits given in the Navy tables. There are many rules to help decide how to shorten the tables and there are even modified Navy tables with shorter bottom times.

A general rule would be to shorten no decompression dive times by 5 minutes when in the 90-130 foot depth range, by 10 minutes when in the 60-80 and by 20 minutes when in the 40-50. Making only these changes and following the rules for repetitive diving should minimize the risk of DCS.

Another important rule is to learn the symptoms of DCS and decide ahead that if you develop one, you will seek medical assistance as soon as possible. Although this seems obvious, many divers find excuses for not seeking help even when paralysis is present. The success of treating a spinal cord injury diminishes as the time delay between injury and treatment gets longer. The faster you can get treatment, the more likely you are to recover completely from an injury. This is one time when waiting is the wrong choice.

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TECHNIFACTS

(Continued from Page 41)

the groove. Put gasket back. Tried to close hatch but it remained open about one inch."

Later the same day, Lieutenant J.K. Morrison made a dive and attempted to enter the *Squalus* through the open escape hatch. He reported, "After getting part way down in the hatch I found that my diving shoes were hitting something soft. I could not descend farther or see what it was that blocked my descent." Lt. Morrison's dive partner, BM1 F.E. Smith, reported, "After Mr. Morrison returned to the deck I lowered the light into the hatch. The visibility was very poor but I could see the face and arm of a body just below the skirt of the hatch."

A cover was built on the *Falcon* and placed over the open hatch on day 98.

In analyzing the events it seems possible that at least one crewman of the *Squalus* reached the after escape hatch. Since there was air in the trunk when Badders opened the bottom hatch of the bell, and since this was the only hatch cover to come open during the salvage work, it seems possible an escape may have been attempted through it. Based on conditions that existed it seems probable that unconsciousness would result before the hatch could be completely opened and an escape completed.

THE SALVAGE CREW

My stories in *SKIN DIVER* of the rescue of personnel and the ultimate salvage of the *Squalus* have been told by a diver writing about divers. It must be stressed fully that the work of the divers would have been fruitless and success impossible without the assistance of hundreds of topside personnel: men equally as tough and dedicated to achieving success and who worked under conditions as cold, wet and hazardous as those encountered by their underwater counterparts. In addition, the crews of the many vessels that made up the salvage force during the successful completion of this difficult task were just as fully committed to bringing the *Squalus* back from the deep.

IN APPRECIATION

Letters, photographs, telephone calls and newspaper clippings were received from many persons over the months as material was gathered for the stories about the *Squalus* rescue and salvage. I would like to particularly thank Mrs. Myrtice Squire, whose husband W.H. Squire made so many dives on the *Squalus*. Myrtice has graciously shared her photos, newspaper clippings and memories of the *Squalus* era with SDM readers. Also, my thanks to Squire's granddaughter,

Krista Hanson, for putting me in touch with Mrs. Squire. To John Mihalowski, one of the rescue divers and an old friend; thanks for your help. Also thanks to Captain M. Sibitzki for his thoughts. Michael Stuto wrote about the second life of the *Squalus* when she fought in WW II as the USS *Sailfish*. Bruce Pickering, son of *Squalus* diver A.W. Pickering, is following in his father's footsteps and is a commercial diver working for Oceaneering International in Louisiana. He sent some interesting information. Barney Murphey wrote, "I was 17 years old when the *Squalus* sank. We lived at Hampton Beach at the time and went out to the scene to watch. We were usually told to leave the area, which we did." Another reader wrote, "I was 16 at the time. I lived in York, Maine and my dad had a 50 foot fishing vessel. He came and got me out of school and we took friends out and witnessed the first load of men rescued from the *Squalus*. It was one of the great thrills of my life." And, to the others who sent information—David Roche, Ken Simmons, Marshall Mahoney and to all those who wrote to encourage writing the story of the salvage of the *Squalus*—thanks.

Next month Technifacts will answer questions, comment on suggestions and, in general, try to answer mail. See you then.

PHOTO CLASS

(Continued from Page 26)

4 x 6 inches. You can also use the thumb and finger method (explained above) to locate the center of the picture.

The space between the close-up lens and the Nikonos lens must be completely flooded. A partial flood or bubbles in the space will ruin your pictures. To flood this space, simply unscrew and reattach the lens underwater.

Hydro Photo also has a close-up lens for the 28mm lens, the 12-28. The picture area and lens to camera distance varies. The distance setting of the lens follows:

Set for 2 feet—8 x 12 inches at 12 inches (1:8)

Set for 6 feet—10 x 15 inches at 15 inches (1:10)

Set for infinity—12 x 18 inches at 20 inches (1:12)

The HPD28 two-prong framer extends six inches beyond the lens. Longer framers create too much water resistance.

LIGHTING CLOSE-UPS

Aim the strobe at the subject, but be careful your lighting angle doesn't cause a shadow from the wand or framer to fall on the subject.

With ISO 50 or 64 film and either manual or TTL exposure control, begin with a strobe to subject distance of 12 to 14 measured inches. The basic aperture is f/16 with a medium power strobe and f/22 with a high power strobe. As a rule of

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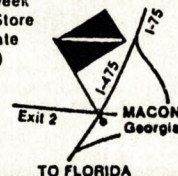
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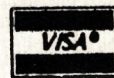
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thumb, if you know what aperture you would use at three apparent feet, close the lens three stops for an estimated close-up aperture. For example, if your strobe table shows f/5.6 for three feet, use f/16 for your close-up aperture. With a TTL strobe, find the combination of aperture and strobe distance that causes the strobe to signal a full power flash. Then, increase exposure (wider aperture or less distance) about one-third stop.

WHICH IS BEST

The answer to which is best—extension tubes or close-up lenses—is largely a matter of subject size. Generally, extension tubes are used for subjects too small for close-up lenses. If both an extension tube and a close-up lens photograph the same picture area, the extension tube picture would yield a little more depth of field (for optical reasons beyond the scope of this article), which would make the picture appear sharper.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the Nikon Close-Up Kit, write to: Nikon Inc., 623 Stewart Street, Garden City, NY 11530. For more information about Hydro Photo close-up lenses, write to: Hydro Photo, P.O. Box # 71, Edwardsville, IL 62025. Extension tubes and framers are available from Oceanic USA, 14275 Catalina Street, San Leandro, CA 94577 and Aquacraft II, 7992 Miramar Road, San Diego, CA 92126.

FIN SWIMMING COMPETITIONS

The national competition in fin swimming recently held in Houston, Texas was the first step on the path to competition in the Olympics. The next step, competition in the Fourth World Championships in West Berlin, August 5-11, will have taken place when this goes to press. Then will come regional, national and international competitions and the Pan American games in 1992.

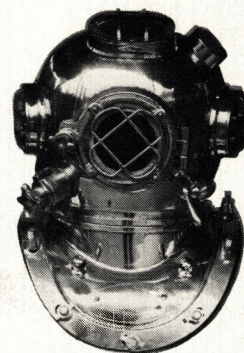
Fin swimming is a sport in which competitors swim on the surface or underwater. Mask, fins and snorkel are used on the surface. For swimming underwater, competitors hold their breath in 50 meter or 50 yard events. Many competitors use mono-fins—one fin with two pockets—and a snorkel that goes from the mouth directly over the head, going between the eyes rather than to the side as does the standard snorkel.

More information about fin swimming competitions may be obtained from John Ratliff, director of fin swimming for the Underwater Society of America, P.O. Box 339, Winchester, OR 97495.

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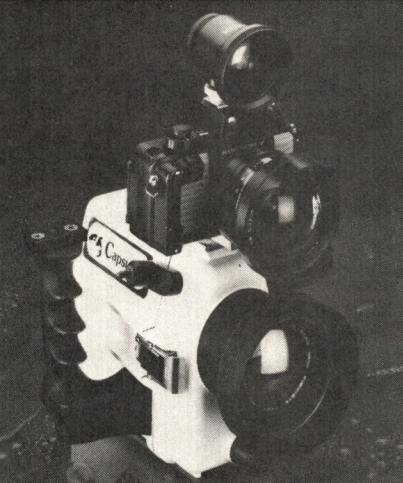
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744 U.S. Hwy. 19, Box 124, Crystal River, FL 32629	
Dive tours & brand new motel. \$63.90 sgl. \$68.90 dbl. incl. manatee dive, King Spring & Rainbow River. Full svcs. shop.	
NORINE ROUSE SCUBA CLUB OF THE PALM BEACHES	305/844-2466
4708 N. Dixie Hwy., West Palm Beach, FL 33407	
A membership club for certified divers. Dive trips 6 days a week.	
PLANTATION INN MARINA	904/795-5797
P.O. Box 1093, Crystal River, FL 32629	
Instruction, rentals, boats, canoes, pkg. deals, pvt. Manatee obser. deck and air sta. at Divers Giant Spring. Golf, tennis, 150 rooms.	
PROFESSIONAL DIVING SCHOOL/CHARTERS OF FLORIDA	
Bahia Mar Yachting Center, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316	
Basic-Divemaster training/specialties—night, deep, wreck, "Instructor." Daily reef & wreck dives. 305/761-3413	800/772-DIVE.
SEAPRO SCUBA CENTER	305/844-DIVE
3619 Broadway, Riviera Beach, FL 33404	
PADI 5 Star facility. Sales, service, instruction, rentals, charters, air. Action sportswear. Tekna scooter rental.	
TALLEY'S PRO DIVE	904/795-2776
P.O. Box 124, Crystal River, Florida 32629	
Open wtr. cert. 3 days of fun \$200. SHERATON INN pkg. rates. Full svcs. dive ctr. Tours: River Artifacts, Caver Cavers, Photog. Manatee.	
THE SCUBA SHACK, INC.	305/334-8808
2485 N.E. Dixie Hwy., Jensen Beach, FL 33457	
The Treasure Coast's oldest full service dive shop. PADI instruction, air, sales, rentals, repairs, trips.	

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P.O. Box 473, Key West, FL 33041	305/296-3737
Canal home w/fully equip. boat at back doorstep-max. conven. Capt. takes you best spots dvg., lobster, spearfish, st. crabs, fish, etc.	
ADMIRAL 1-65 FEET OF COMFORT AND FUN!	305/451-1114
P.O. Box 0113, (MM 100), Key Largo, FL 33037	
Scuba/snorkel trips to Pennekamp Reefs! PADI/MDEA Certification courses start daily! Group and room package plans!	
A KEY LARGO CONDO	Call collect 813/939-3612
Moon Bay deluxe 2 BR, 1 1/2 bath w/dock, sleeps 6. Near Pennekamp, dive centers, marinas and Largo cut. Scuba, snorkel, fishing, skiing, tennis. \$395 per wk. Reserve early.	
AMERICAN DIVING HEADQUARTERS, INC.	305/451-0037
Rt. #1, P.O. Box 274-B, Key Largo, FL 33037	
SSI, PADI, NAUI. Pennekamp our specialty for 25 years. 2-7 day packages, 1/2 & all day trips. For res. call toll free 800/634-8464.	
AQUATIC FLOATING SEA COVE MOTEL	305/289-0800
12685 Overseas Hwy., Marathon, FL 33050	
Budget Rates. Summer \$19-\$39, Winter \$24-\$44 for two. Private deep harbor & ramp on Atlantic. A#1 rooms and effs.	
BAY HARBOR LODGE	305/852-5695
Rt. 1, P.O. Box 35, Key Largo, FL 33037 MM 97.5	
Best rates. Motel, efficiency apartments. Beach, dock.	
BIG PINE SEA CENTER DIVE SHOP	305/872-2319
P.O. Box 515, MM 29.5 US#1, Big Pine Key, FL 33043	
Dive Looe Key, #1 Reef in FL. Keys, full service shop. Dive/lodging packages, custom boats.	
BUDDY'S DIVE SHOP	305/664-4707
P.O. Box 409, Islamorada, FL 33036 MM 79.5 Bud 'n Mary's Marina	
Dv. aboard our 40' 'Scuba Safari' & 34' 'Free 'n Clear'. Full 1/2 day trips to Alligator Reef, Cannabis Cruiser & Coral Gardens. Pkgs. avail.	
CAPTAIN CHAMBERS CHARTERS	305/451-1805
P.O. Box 2258, Key Largo, FL 33037 MM 100	Dive Pennekamp
31' cst. boat w/sundk., 6 max. Guide svcs., U/W cam., 1 trip daily, brunch served, cust. dv. pkgs. avail. Rec. by Undercurrent 3/82.	

CAPT. CORKY'S DIVERS' WORLD of Key Largo, Inc.	305/451-3200
P.O. Box 1663, Key Largo, FL 33037 MM 99.5 U.S. 1 past Wendy's Bahamas/Pennekamp, U/W video rental, sknl. w/dolphins, PADI instr., grp. rates, dive, sknl., sail, shell collect, spearfish. Best pkg. rates!	
CAPT. GREG'S SCUBA-DO	305/451-3446
P.O. Box 2237, Key Largo, FL 33037 MM 100 @ 100 Marina	
Dive Pennekamp, 34' Boat, 6 max. No crowds. Personal Service. Combin. Dive & Fish Trips Avail. Pkg. Rates.	
CAPT. SLATE'S ATLANTIS DIVE CENTER	800/331-DIVE
51 Garden Cove Dr., Key Largo, FL 33037 MM 106.5	305/451-1325
Dive Pennekamp on 1 of 4 cust. boats. NAUI, YMCA, PADI, CMAS. Instr., air & rentals, grp. & multi-dive disc. pkgs., gifts.	
CORAL LAGOON RESORT AT THE DIVING SITE	305/289-0121
Middle Keys, MM 53, 12399 Overseas Hwy., Marathon, FL 33050	
Waterfront efficiency cottages, dockage, pool, tennis, bikes. PADI dive shop, lessons, 3 boats, groups, spring/fall dive pkgs.	
DIVE KEY WEST	305/L. 6-3661
"Carol J", P.O. Box 2842, Key West, FL 33045	
Disc. room pkg. & grp. rates. Max. 6 divers. Lobster diving & spearfishing, rentals & air.	
FLORIDA KEYS DIVE & SKI, INC.	305/852-4599
P.O. Box 391, Tavernier, FL 33070	6 pass. dive boats.
A PADI scuba train. fac. Checkouts, 4 day cert. course & all levels of instr. Spearfishing, shelling, watersports.	
GILBERT'S MOTEL & MARINA	305/451-1133
107900 Overseas Hwy., Key Largo, FL 33037	
3/day dive pkgs. avail.; boat/jet ski/windsurf mtls.; wet/dry storage; fishing guides; bait/tackle shops; restaurant/pool.	
GOLDEN KEY MOTEL	305/664-4418
U.S. Rt. 1, P.O. Box 710, Islamorada, FL 33036 MM 81	
Free dockage & boat ramp, waterfront cottage, rooms with stove & refrigerator, picnic & barbeque area.	
HALL'S DIVING CENTER & RESORT	800/331-4255
1688 Overseas Hwy., Marathon, Fla. Keys 33050(in FL)	305/743-5929
Beautiful reef & wreck diving trips—Largest store & instruction. facility in the Keys—motel/condo-dive packages arranged.	
HAWK'S CAY RESORT & MARINA	US 800/327-7775
MM 61, Marathon, FL 33050	FL 800/432-2242
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Custom-built dive boats, air/equip. rental, instr., pkg. rates.	
HOLIDAY ISLE DIVE CENTER	305/664-4145
P.O. Box 482, Islamorada, FL 33036 MM 84.5	FL 800/432-2875
All new "Wreck Diving"	US 800/327-7070
All new 22 passenger dive boat.	
ISLAMORADA LUXURY CONDO RENTAL	317/776-0444
The Hamilton Drydock Co., Box 51424, Indianapolis, IN 46251	
Beautiful oceanfront top floor privacy, all amenities. Adjacent to Buddy's Dive Shop, Bud 'n Mary's Marina.	
KEY LARGO—From Studio apt. to 3 bedroom 2 1/2 bath apt. Tennis, pool, dockage. Close to all dive shops & boat rentals from \$200 per week. Call 312/357-6285.	
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P.O. Box 161414, Miami, FL 33116	
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KEY LARGO LUXURY CONDO	513/984-0866
Oleink, 8555 Blue Cut Lane, Cincinnati, OH 45243	
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KEY WEST DIVER INC.—CAPT. BILLY DEANS	305/294-0660
c/o Reef Raiders Dive Shop, U.S. #1, Stock Isle, Key West, FL 33040. Dive the Sambos, Ten Fathom Ledge, WWII wrecks, USS Wilkes-Barre. Every dive an adventure.	
LADY CYANA DIVERS	305/664-8717
P.O. Box 1157, Islamorada, FL 33036 MM 85.9	800/221-8717
26', 40' & 60' dive boats. Reefs, galleons, wrecks & The 'Eagle'. Complete pro shop, instruction, packages, photo center.	
LOOE KEY RESORT & MARINA	305/872-2215
P.O. Box 509, Ramrod Key, FL 33042 MM27 1/2	
40' Glass Bottom Boat, Motel, Restaurant, Dive Shop, Dockage, Ramp, Pool, Tiki Bar, Diving Inst., Custom Dive & Snorkel Boats.	
LOOKOUT LODGE RESORT	301/474-6381
Waterfront efficiencies, beach, boat ramp, docking. Dive packages. PADI OW/AOW. Rental tanks & Weight belts. MM 88 between Pennekamp and Islamorada.	
PENNEKAMP PARK CONCESSION	305/451-1621
P.O. Box 1560, MM 102.5, Key Largo, FL 33037	FL 800/432-2871
The only dive shop located directly in Pennekamp. Free brochure, send 50¢ for reef chart.	
PLANTATION KEY LARGO LUXURY CONDO	305/852-5748
c/o 195 N. Airport Rd., Tavernier, Florida 33070	
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ROCK REEF RESORT	305/852-2401
P.O. Box 73, Key Largo, FL 33037 MM 98	
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SARASOTA AREA DIVERS	813/792-3324
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SEA DWELLERS SPORTS CENTER	305/451-3640
99850 Overseas Hwy., Key Largo, FL 33037	800/451-3640
Reef trips daily to Pennekamp Underwater State Park. Dive package with Key Largo Holiday Inn.	
SEAFARER RESORT MOTEL	305/852-5349
P.O. Box 185, Key Largo, FL 33037 MM 97.8 (Gulfside)	
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SEA HORSE MOTEL	305/743-6571
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STEPHEN FRINK PHOTOGRAPHIC, INC.	305/451-3737
P.O. Box 2720, Key Largo, FL 33037 MM 102.5	
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THE BOAT, a div. of Triangle Watersports, Inc.	305/745-BOAT
Rt. 2, P.O. Box 617, Summerland, FL 33042	
Free color brochure, customized dives, adventure experiences, instruction, U/W video, Looe Key, Hawks Channel & Gulf.	
THE DIVING SITE, INC.	US 800/634-3935; FL 800/821-9155
12399 Overseas Hwy., Marathon, FL 33050 MM 53.5	
16 & 30 pass. dive boats. Daily reef trips.	305/289-1021
Charters & group rates, PADI lessons, sales, repairs, dive pkgs.	
TWIN HARBORS	305/451-1751
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DIVING WORLD USA	404/634-4354
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AQUATIC CHARTERS OF MAUI	808/879-0976
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Daily dv. Molokini. Send \$29 U/W video of Maui dv. sites feat. Molokini Crater. VHS/Beta MC/Visa. PADI Instr. U/W video svcs.	
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976 Kuhio Hwy., Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii 96746	
Kauai's only PADI 5 Star, Largest sport & commer'l facil., Sales, mtls., free air, 2 day cert., sml. pers. chtrs., indiv./grp. pkgs.	
DIVE MAKAI CHARTERS	808/329-2025
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Diving with a difference—we care! Write to Tom & Lisa. Rated Kona's best every year since '76 by Undercurrent.	

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39 N. Allen, Bonne Terre, MO 63628

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Brooklyn's full service pro shop.

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I Learned About Diving From That

Wreck Diving Is Not For Cowboys

BY CHRISTOPHER WILLIS

On May 5, 1945, only hours before the cessation of hostilities with Nazi Germany, a German submarine stalked the shipping lanes of Rhode Island Sound. Unaware of the menace beneath the waves, the American collier *Black Point* quietly made its way through the spring afternoon. At 5:40 pm, Oberleutnant Helmut Fromsdörf, the submarine's 24 year old commander, fired the last of his torpedoes into the after section of the unsuspecting merchant ship. The resulting explosion tore away the stern of the ship and killed 12 seamen. The *Black Point* sank within 25 minutes four miles southeast of Point Judith. The destroyer escort *Atherton* made sonar contact with the *U-853* shortly after 8:00 pm and began depth charging. Hours later, with its hull broken open by depth charges, the U-boat came to its final resting place on the muddy bottom, 130 feet underwater. All hands were lost.

I had heard stories of "the U-boat" from the time I began diving in Rhode Island. In those days I regarded wreck divers as the cowboys of scuba diving. Like the heroes of the Old West I had watched on TV as a child, my impression of divers who penetrated deep wrecks such as the *U-853* was somewhat glamorized. I marveled at the artifacts and souvenirs they recovered as though they were notches on the butt of a Colt 44, never fully appreciating what they went through to get them.

After an advanced open water course and 109 dives (only one in excess of 100 feet), I felt I was ready to take a look at the U-boat. The opportunity presented itself on the first day of summer in 1985. Four friends, all very experienced divers, had planned an expedition to photograph the *U-853* and the *Black Point* for a shipwreck article. There was room for one more and I was invited.

We were all pretty sure of ourselves underwater (perhaps too sure). Jim was the photographer of the group; it was his show. I guess I looked to Bob as the leader of the expedition. He was a knowledgeable instructor and, along with Hugh, had been to the submarine once before. David and I were just along for the dive, willing to assist Jim if needed.

Bob and Jim had worked out a dive plan that allowed 20 minutes of bottom time. Then we would return to the anchorline and ascend to ten feet for ten minutes. Bob provided an extra tank and a regulator with five second stages to hang at the decompression stop. After a three hour surface interval we would move the boat to shallower water and dive on the *Black Point*. We thought we were well equipped for deep diving. Each of us had a dive timer, light, octopus regulator and a full tank for each dive. Someone even thought to bring an emergency oxygen bottle.

The skipper of the *Amy C.* located the U-boat with Loran and hooked the anchor into it with little difficulty. Before long, the five of us were following the anchorline down into the ever darkening depths. At 115 feet the shadowy conning tower of the *U-853* appeared out of the darkness.

I was a little concerned when I came upon Bob and Jim sharing air. Evidently there was a malfunction in Bob's regulator, which he was trying to correct without aborting the dive. They signaled everything was OK and I continued down.

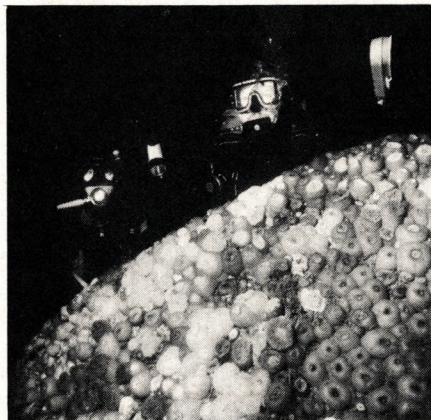


photo Jim Daniels

David and I met at the end of the anchorline and set off to explore the wreck. We peered into the cramped hatchway of the conning tower. The tight fit quickly dispelled any intention of penetrating the submarine. Every few seconds the light from Jim's strobes would flash across the hull. After a few minutes Jim, Hugh and Bob (his regulator problem corrected) joined David and me and we made our way to the stern of the U-boat. Jim continued to take pictures as a large torpedo ray silently slipped away, leaving the wreck to us. It was then that I lost track of Bob and Hugh.

Time was getting short. I checked my gauges as I kicked back toward the anchorline. With only two minutes left, I still had more than 500 psi left in my tank. No problem, I thought. David and Jim got ahead of me as I scanned the wreck one last time for some small souvenir. No luck. I arrived at the anchorline just as my dive timer passed the 20 minute mark.

Jim and David were already there and seemed to be in trouble. Jim was trying to get air out of David's octopus, but it didn't seem to be working. As I approached I held out my orange octopus for whomever wanted it. Jim immediately grabbed it and breathed deeply.

When I tried to inhale again through my primary second stage I discovered, to my terror, that I was now out of air as well.

The next 45 seconds were the longest of my life. The primal instinct of self survival took hold of all of us. We knew where there was plenty of air and each of us began an emergency ascent to the surface. I lost track of Jim and David as I scurried up the anchorline. They were headed for the surface directly above the sub. As I pulled myself hand over hand toward the surface it occurred to me that I might be able to get another breath as the ambient pressure decreased. I kept my regulator in my mouth to keep from accidentally breathing seawater. Somewhere along the line the water suddenly got very bright. I knew I was close to the surface and tried for another breath. I got about half of what I wanted.

After what seemed like an eternity, I surfaced. The fresh air tasted wonderful. I was taking a mental inventory for pain and other ill effects from such a drastic ascent when David and Jim surfaced about 20 yards in front of me. I felt OK. David was talking excitedly and Jim looked very pale and disoriented. We swam back to the boat together. It was there we found Bob and Hugh clinging to the transom after an emergency ascent of their own. Bob looked as shocked as Jim.

By now I was pretty sure I hadn't embolized and felt in fairly good shape. Hugh also seemed OK. He and I hastily dropped down to the tank secured at ten feet to wait out our decompression stop. One by one the rest of the group joined us.

Back on board the *Amy C.*, we sat stunned and amazed at the potentially tragic events and our lucky fate. Just to be on the safe side we each took several deep breaths from the all-too-small oxygen bottle. Needless to say, the second dive was forgotten.

Tragic and near tragic events are great teachers. Aside from a new appreciation for life, I learned several things that first day of summer on Rhode Island Sound:

First and foremost, always plan your ascent for a predetermined, specific tank pressure and bottom time, whichever comes first. Air consumption at 120 feet is much quicker than it is at 60 or 30 feet. Redundant air supplies—pony bottles or doubles—can save your life.

Additionally, decompression diving on deep wrecks is serious business. Take an active role in planning your dives and be sure you understand all the parameters. Don't let the romance of shipwrecks and the allure of souvenirs and treasure lull you into a false sense of security and confidence. The hazards and dangers of deep wreck diving are very real. Wreck diving is *not* for cowboys. >

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A woman with long, wavy brown hair is looking directly at the camera. She is wearing a blue and red wetsuit. She is holding a Tabata TR-100 second stage regulator in her right hand. The regulator has a black knob and a silver body. The background is dark.

Let us coordinate your next dive.

With our selection of hot colors and your sense of style, Tabata can help you coordinate just about any diving outfit you want.

You've always got a choice with Tabata. Even the casings on our TR-100 second stages are tuned in to fashion. You can choose from hot pink, lemon yellow, jet black, fluorescent orange, aqua blue, light blue, wine red and our luscious new lavender.

What's more, the TR-100 second stage carries a high IZOD rating because we utilize Borg Warner CTB and sonic welding. We use hypo-allergenic super-resilient silicone throughout. Plus, our balanced flow-through piston first stage is rated to handle up to 4000 psi, and features a 360° swivel with 4 low pressure ports.

Hot colors. High quality.

Dive with Tabata, and you've got it together.

The Tabata logo, featuring a stylized white 'A' inside a circle, followed by the word 'Tabata' in a bold, sans-serif font.

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